

Liturgical Date: Year C, Pentecost 10, Sunday, 17 August 2025

Presenter: Rev Jon Humphries

Focus Reading: Luke 12:32-38

Message. 10 minutes 39 seconds **"Not Gentle, Meek or Mild"**

Discussion Starters

1. What did you hear in this presentation which was new for you?
2. Where have you encountered tension or arguments where following the way of Jesus has caused division within the Church or your family?
3. What might it mean for our Church to take a stand on justice in society or challenge policies which are at odds with the values of the Kingdom of Heaven?
If you haven't done so, or not done so lately, read the Uniting Church Statement to the Nation 1977
https://uniting.church/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/1_StatementNation1977.pdf
4. What issues or injustice or inequity might people be facing in our community that we might be being called to challenge?

Other Readings for this day

Isaiah 5:1-7 The prophet sings of the Lord as a dedicated vintner whose vineyard, Israel, has failed to produce justice and righteousness.

Psalms 80:1-2, 8-19 The psalmist asks God to restore and care once more for the vine that was so carefully planted.

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All Age Message: Rev Jon Humphries **"Gritty Perseverance in Faith"**

Length 4 minutes 15 seconds **Hebrews 11:29-12:2**

Precis of All Age Address

Life is not always easy, it's not always as we want it. Sometimes doing the right thing can be costly. The price might be more than just our popularity. Life can become hard, but it will also be worthwhile. When things get tough we need to think of it as an endurance run and push on to the end of the race, because the prize is so important....working to make the world a just place for all, working to call the Kingdom of God into being.

Rev Jon Humphries is ministry leader at St. Matthew's Uniting Church Baulkham Hills, being a Minister of the Word in placement there since October 2023. He is passionate about creative ways of engaging with God. He has spent most of his professional and ministry life working in schools and is an educator at heart. Jon is a member of the Uniting Church Assembly's Transforming Worship Circle of Interest and Growing in Faith Circle of Interest. He also has a passion for wellbeing and flourishing. His favourite way to look after his wellbeing and recharge his spirit is to go kayaking. He is also a prolific writer of prayers which he shares on Facebook and other avenues.