

Pentecost 10 Year A, August 2nd 2026

Presenter: Rev Dr Peter Oliver

Focus Reading: Matthew 14:13-21

Message: 7 minutes 56 seconds

"Nothing But..."

Discussion Starters

1. Is there something that surprises you about this story?
2. Have you something that you contribute to church life that you thought was "nothing much" to you?
3. What do you ask a blessing of?
4. Is there a hunger among people you know? What might be the small contribution you make to help them?

Readings for this day

Genesis 32:22-31 Jacob wrestles with the angel of God by night and prevails. His persistence is rewarded with a blessing, a new name, and a new mission.

Psalms 17: 1-7 The psalmist professes faithful obedience and constancy to the dictates of the law, even as he pleads for vindication from God against unjust accusations.

Romans 9:1-5 Paul is troubled by the situation of the people of Israel. A Jew by birth, he is deeply distressed that despite many time-honoured proofs, they have not honoured their place in the covenant, nor acknowledged Jesus as the fulfillment of the messianic promise.

Abingdon Theological Companion to the Lectionary, Year A. Copyright c2013 by Abingdon Press, an imprint of the United Methodist Publishing House. (Used by permission. All rights reserved.)

Intergenerational Talk

"Helen Keller – Blind, Deaf, Brilliant"

Rev Dr Peter Oliver

Length: 2 minutes 0 seconds

Precis of IT:

Imagine life if you could not hear, and see? Helen Keller was born like that but her swimming teacher started using "taps with her fingers on her hand" and this connection turned into understanding and communication. Later in life she said, "In the world there is much suffering but there is also much overcoming".

Uniting in Worship (Blue Book). Psalm 17:1-7 – page 254

Rev Dr Peter Oliver

Minister in Association at Sanctuary Uniting Church Jesmond Park, NSW. Ordained in 1980 after working for Newcastle Youth Service. Served congregations in the Hunter and Hospital Chaplaincy. D. Min from SFTS. Played C.S. Lewis in "Shadowlands" and still play soccer and basketball. Married to the wonderful Liz.