



*Dear Friends,

*We've just experienced some beautiful sunny days when we've been able to get outside and enjoy walking around our gardens or balconies. Or maybe we can look out of our windows and see the sunshine, hear the birds, and feel the warmth. One of the things I like to do is to have a cuppa and sit and listen to the birds. Too often we forget to stop and listen to the sounds around us.

*On my way to Wiseman's Ferry yesterday I stopped to buy a coffee and there wasn't much traffic noise around and I could hear bell-birds, their little bell like sound filled the air and I was transfixed for a few minutes listening to them. It's hard to see them in the trees but their sound makes an impact. I think we all learnt the poem by Henry Kendall – here is the first verse..

*"By channels of coolness the echoes are calling,
And down the dim gorges I hear the creek falling;
It lives in the mountain, where moss and the sedges
Touch with their beauty the banks and the ledges;
Through brakes of the cedar and sycamore bowers
Struggles the light that is love to the flowers.
And, softer than slumber, and sweeter than singing,
The notes of the bell-birds are running and ringing."



*Sitting in silence is not always an easy thing to do, and often in prayer its all about us talking with God, perhaps God is wanting to talk with us, but we don't give him a chance to get a word in edgewise (so to speak). As we think about Jesus' journey to the cross, help us to reflect on what he has done for us. In those silent moments may we be aware of God's great love for us. May we hear again the words from scripture John 3:16,17 NLT
*¹⁶ "For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him."

*Dadirri is a word used by our Aboriginal brothers and sisters. Miriam-Rose Ungunmerr of the Daly River refers to dadirri as 'inner deep listening and quiet still awareness' and says 'it is something like what we call "contemplation"'.
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*The quieter you become the more you can hear. (author unknown)
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*Dear Lord, in the busyness of life, help us to **stop**, and be still, to **look** at the beauty of your creation surrounding us, and to **listen** to your still small voice speaking with us. May it be as Dadirri, inner deep listening and quiet still awareness. Help us to open our ears to hear your voice and to know how much you love us. **Amen**

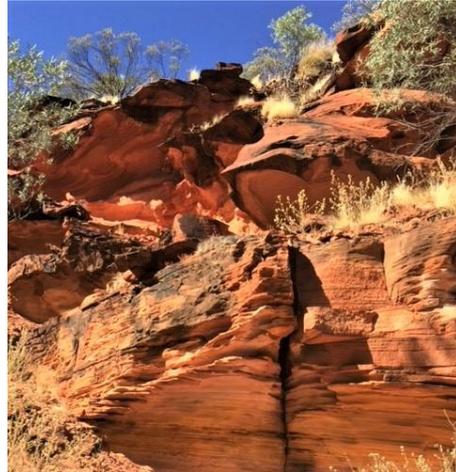




* Song: A Blessing for one another

* [For You Deep Stillness - Bing video](#)

* For you, deep stillness of the silent inland
* For you, deep blue of the desert skies
* For you, flame red of the rocks and stones
* For you, sweet water from hidden springs
* From the edges seek the heartlands
* and when you're burnt by the journey
* may the cool winds of the hovering
* Spirit soothe and replenish you.
* In the name of Christ, In the name of Christ



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* Open our eyes Lord, we want to see JESUS - YouTube

* Open our eyes, Lord,
* we want to see Jesus,
* to reach out and touch him,
* and say that we love him.
* Open our ears, Lord,
* and help us to listen.
* Open our eyes, Lord,
* we want to see Jesus.

* As we go into Holy Week, may this Easter be a time of rededication and renewal as we 'sit
* in the silence' with our Risen Saviour and read again the story of his death and
* resurrection. *Amen*

* God be with you and your loved ones in and through the coming week.

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