

Well, dear friends, it's beginning to feel as though Spring is coming. We've had some lovely weather and the wattle has been blossoming and other plants are pushing up through the earth ready to display their beauty and colour. Whenever Spring comes may there be a sense of joy as we come out of the cold of Winter and head towards the warmth of Spring and Summer.

“For the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers are springing up and the time of the singing of birds has come. Yes, spring is here” – maybe not quite but it is coming. Song of Solomon 2:11-12 (TLB)

The word “spring” can have many and varied meanings



To Leap or to SPRING

When we are out walking, we sometimes have to leap over a ditch or puddle. It is a jump from the known to the unknown, from the well-worn to the new. I read a quote years ago “the jump is so frightening between where I am and where I want to be, because of all I may become, I will close my eyes and Leap”. At that particular time, I was in a place where I didn't know where I was and so this quote meant something to me. However, I knew that in that leap, I could trust in God to hold me up and plant my feet on solid ground and guide me into the unknown. Each of us have to Leap or Spring over difficulties but, we are never alone, God has promised that He will go with us as we take the risk and leap, and he will show us the way in the unknown places.



Then there is SPRINGTIME

What are some of the things that come to mind when you think of Springtime?

We see the beauty of the daffodils and tulips bursting up through ground, and the new green shoots and blossom on the trees. We hear baby birds and, in the country, there are little lambs and calves romping around in the lush green grass... there is new life wherever we look. Jesus came to give us new life – we read “God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life” – a new life and abundant life...

John 3:16



We feel at times like a SPRING

Sometimes we feel like a coiled spring ready to snap or perhaps stretched to the limit. The pressures around us become too much at times for us or our families to handle. Someone said to me the other day they thought that once their children had grown up, we wouldn't have to worry. I think we all agree that they are always our children, and we carry their hurts and worries all our lives. God has said to hand over these troubles to him. Psalm 55:22 “Give your burdens to the LORD, and he will take care of you” 1 Peter 5:7 “Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you.” When we feel stretched to almost breaking God restores us to our original shape. He brings us back to the shape in which He made us, and in which He wants and loves us.



Last one is SPRING OF WATER

This spring bursts out of the rocks, or from the ground beneath us and flows through the land freshening and re-vitalising it as it goes. Even its sound is refreshing when we are hot and dry. It provides water to drink and to wash in. We think of Jesus at the well in Samaria and his promise to give that woman, and us, 'living water'. 'Whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.' (John 4:14 NIV). God refreshes and revitalises us through this living water.. Isaiah 58:11 NLT “The LORD will guide you continually, giving you water when you are dry and restoring your strength. You will be like a well-watered garden, like an ever-flowing spring.”

As we began, Spring has many and varied meanings; throughout it all God is there helping us to make that leap of faith, teaching us to enjoy the beauty of His creation, telling us to give to Him those things that make us feel like a coiled spring inside and finally God wants us to accept the spring of living water that we might know his love and care and never thirst again.

I trust you can enjoy this beautiful hymn of praise..

[St Paul's Cathedral Choir - For the beauty of the earth - Bing video](#)

For the beauty of the earth
For the beauty of the skies
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies
Over and around us lies
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our joyful hymn of praise

For the beauty of the hour
Of the day and of the night
Hill and vale and tree and flower
Sun and moon and stars of light
Sun and moon and stars of light
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our joyful hymn of praise

For the joy of human love
Brother, sister, parent, child
Friends on earth and friends above
For all gentle thoughts and mild
For all gentle thoughts and mild
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our joyful hymn of praise

For each perfect gift of thine
To our race so freely given
Graces human and divine
Flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n
Flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n
Lord of all, to thee we raise
This our joyful hymn, our joyful hymn of praise
This our joyful hymn of praise

“The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you, the Lord lift us His countenance upon you and give you peace.”

God's richest blessings to one and all. Lyn – Senior's Pastor (0412 990 949)