

# SERMON NOTES Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October sunnysidechurch

**Bible passages:** Isaiah 61.1-7, Colossians 1.3-14

## Introduction

- Are we keen to grow?
- ❖ Come to me: an invitation to new life.
  - ❖ Invitation - to all, just as we are
  - ❖ Thanksgiving – looking beyond the gift to the giver
  - ❖ Lament – honesty in our relationship with God
  - ❖ Learning – what our experiences have taught us

## Growing

- Need to accept Jesus' invitation to come and ask what God is calling us to do with what we have learnt through the past year.
- Colossians: 2 groups of 3 fruits
  - ❖ Faith, hope and love – Paul is thankful that the Colossians have grown in their faith and are already displaying these fruits
  - ❖ Knowledge, wisdom and understanding – Paul's prayer for the Colossians going forward is that they will receive these fruits – by being filled with the Holy Spirit.

## What are we called to?

- Isaiah – who is the “me” in verse 1?
  - ❖ The prophet Isaiah
  - ❖ The Jewish community at that time
  - ❖ Jesus
  - ❖ Each one of us
- We need to take our part in God's mission, to act on Jesus' manifesto

- God's mission is to meet people's needs – to meet people where they are and demonstrate his love – this is what we are called to.

## The Listening Project

- New initiative to try and discover the needs of those in our church family and the parish
  - ❖ Brief information and an opportunity to answer the question 'What concerns you most going forward' is available here: <https://forms.gle/bF2VR8NaW7P8PjuR7>
  - ❖ There will be a blog on the website and in next week's mailchimp with further information

## Some questions for discussion

1. Read Colossians 3.1-14. What does this passage tell you about growth?
2. How do you feel about praying that you personally, & the Sunnyside church family “will be filled with the Spirit, with the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives of the knowledge of God's will.”? Can we be bold enough to pray this prayer?
3. Read Isaiah 61.1-7, what stands out for you today?
4. How would you define God's mission that we are called to be a part of?

The One who called you is completely dependable. If he said it, he'll do it!  
*1 Thessalonians 5.24 The Message*

Why not spend some time this week praying for the Listening Project and listening for God's call to you.

Revd Hilary Kemp