



**uniting  
church**  
Kiama Jamberoo

## **Healing Service Thursday 25 June 2020**

Well, here we are again, it's coming to the end of the month and we are bringing our prayers to the Lord, for ourselves; for others we know; for those we don't know, but who right now need to know God's presence in their lives. The last few months have been really difficult and even the easing of restrictions brings its own stress and fear. Many people have had to continue to walk with illness, grief and sorrow in the midst of the pandemic, today we pause and listen for a word of encouragement; a word of hope; a reminder that God's faithfulness has not changed; His love for us has not changed.

You might like to light a candle and listen to this lovely old hymn as you quiet your heart.

Whispering Hope:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pcx4zOfVPyw>

Tangled Threads.

I couldn't believe it! only a couple of hours ago I thought my knitting project was going well and, if I say so myself, looking good. I stared at the tangled mess of threads in front of me and wasn't even sure which way was up.

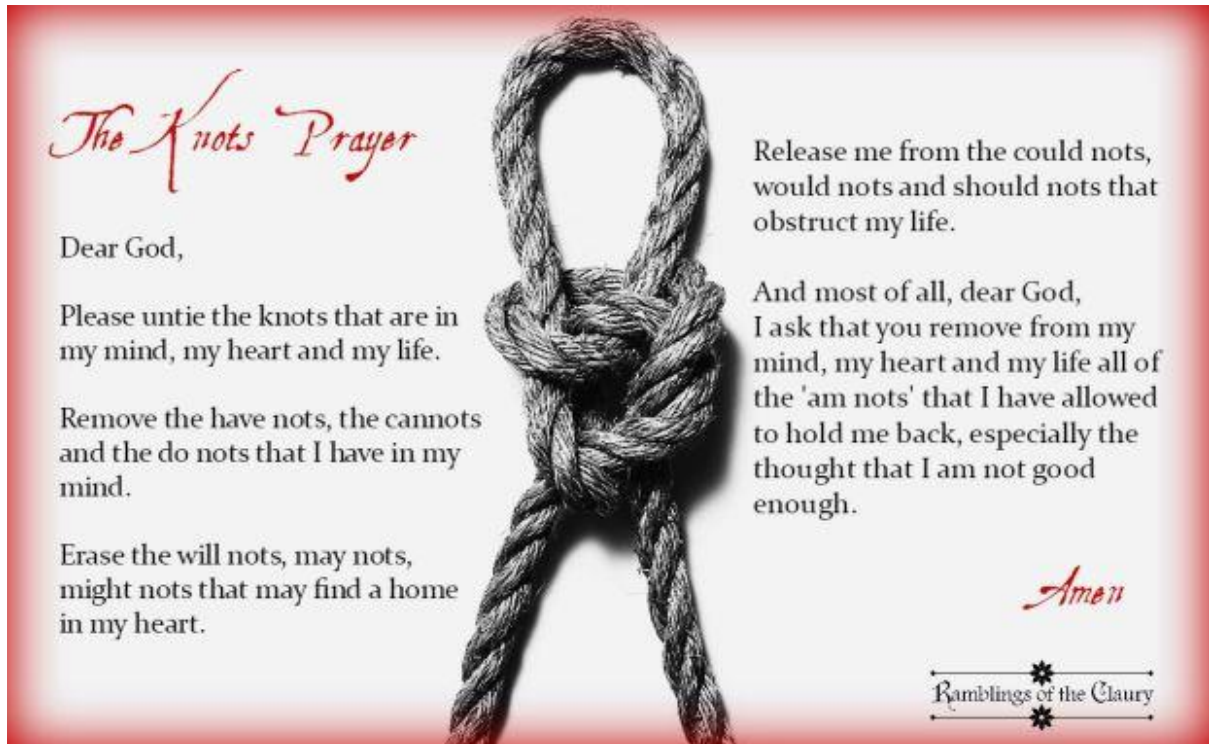
Come on, it can't be that hard. Just take one thread at a time. But which one? The more I looked the more uncertain I was where to start... It took a long time and I lost count of how many times I thought about pitching the whole thing into the bin; but eventually, one strand at a time, I did it.

It set me thinking about this knitting project I call my life and those times when I had thought it was looking good, just the way I had planned. And then something unexpected happened; I was blindsided by betrayal, unemployment, illness; I went to sleep one day, and woke up in a pandemic world.

One day at a time I'm trying to figure out how to untangle my feelings, my confusion, my fear. Some days it's all too hard, but then I pick up one thread, just one - I make one little plan and even though I can't see how it will make a difference I do that one small thing. And at the end

of that day it DOES feel a little less tangled and I feel like I could try one more thing tomorrow.

Actually, I've also been reminded of a few other things I sometimes lose sight of. I didn't write the pattern for my knitting or my life. Sometimes I get a bit smug about how much I have achieved and I forget the One who designed the pattern, provided all I needed and taught me how to live the stitches I call my days.



*The Knots Prayer*

Dear God,

Please untie the knots that are in my mind, my heart and my life.

Remove the have nots, the cannots and the do nots that I have in my mind.

Erase the will nots, may nots, might nots that may find a home in my heart.

Release me from the could nots, would nots and should nots that obstruct my life.

And most of all, dear God, I ask that you remove from my mind, my heart and my life all of the 'am nots' that I have allowed to hold me back, especially the thought that I am not good enough.

*Amen*

Ramblings of the Clairy

Loving God, who made and formed each one of us, we so often forget that You are right here with us every moment of the day, You know the way through the tangles and confusion we find so hard to face. Remind us to reach out, take Your hand and let You guide, comfort and strengthen us. Amen

Lord, for my sake, please teach me to take, one day at a time...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=IOfPQReS6vU>

My life is but a weaving  
Between my God and me.  
I cannot choose the colors  
He weaveth steadily.

Oft' times He weaveth sorrow;  
And I in foolish pride  
Forget He sees the upper  
And I the underside.

Not 'til the loom is silent  
And the shuttles cease to fly  
Will God unroll the canvas  
And reveal the reason why.

The dark threads are as needful  
In the weaver's skilful hand  
As the threads of gold and silver  
In the pattern He has planned

He knows, He loves, He cares;  
Nothing this truth can dim.  
He gives the very best to those  
Who leave the choice to Him."

— **Grant Colfax Tullar**

*Prepared by Marion Haigh  
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