

# Where's Your Chair?

Philippians 1 19-29



Great is the Lord and highly to be praised;  
his greatness is beyond all searching out.  
Psalm 145:3

## **Praising:**

Cast care aside, lean on thy  
guide;  
his boundless mercy will provide;  
trust, and thy trusting soul shall  
prove  
Christ is its life, and Christ its  
love.

## **Reading:**

Philippians 1:19-29  
Living and dying

The thought has evidently  
occurred to St Paul that he might  
not get out of this prison alive. At  
one and the same time he is both  
confident that God will deliver him  
from his bondage, and resigned  
to his fate if God does not.  
Because he sees that the  
Christians at Philippi need him,  
Paul believes he will eventually  
be rescued. But even if he isn't,  
that's alright too. Like his master

Christ, Paul has a seemingly  
unrepressed sense of his own  
death and somehow this sense is  
Paul's source of life, joy and  
Gospel energy. Also, there is a  
solidarity in spiritual struggle says  
Paul, a solidarity which not only  
joins believers to believers more  
closely, but believers to God. To  
suffer for Christ, is to enter into  
these bonds of affection more  
deeply.

## **Listening:**

## **Praying:**

We pray for a sense of our own  
mortality

- that we would live as those for  
whom death is not the end
- that we would see more  
clearly what is of value in life  
and what is worthless
- that we would take every  
opportunity every day to put  
ourselves to God's use

Father: help me to live each day  
as if it were my last, not in fear  
and in dread, but in joy and in  
hope that as I serve you here and  
now, I will continue to serve you  
hereafter and for ever. Amen

## **Doing:**

Monday, 22 February 2016