



Just As I Am



Eucharist

Saturday 14 October 2017

The altar cloth with our thumbprints is brought in and placed on the table, as a way of creating an offering in which all are included on the basis of their own unique identity.

Words of Welcome



Opening Prayer

We are gathered together to worship you.

We share with you all that we are.

We know that we have sometimes strayed far from you.

Please forgive us.

Help us to serve you and one another, in love and acceptance.

We bring before you each person in our group,

and pray for your peace and presence to guide our lives.

In the name of Jesus,

Amen.

John 6. 33-35: I Am the Bread of Life

For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' They said to him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.'

Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

Silence

Lord, Living Word, Bread of Life

All Dwell in us and nourish us forever.

Prayers

Together we pray this Shalom Prayer slowly and in a place of silence.

I come as myself. Just as I am. This moment. My feelings, my fears. My joys, my sadnesses. You see me as I really am. You know me through and through. You see all. All that I am or ever have been. Holy Spirit, source of all truth, giver of power, come upon me now. As gently as a dove or like tongues of living fire. As quietly as a summer breeze or as a mighty roaring wind. Come and dwell within me. Enable me now to do those things which before were impossible. Amen.

In a time of Silence you are invited to share what is on your heart 'Just as you Are', a word or name...

Hymn

- Just as I am, without one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me, and that thou bid'st me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come.
- 2 Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt; fightings within, and fears without, O Lamb of God, I come.
- Just as I am, thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve; because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come.
- 4 Just as I am, thy love unknown has broken every barrier down; now, to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come.

Charlotte Elliott (1789-1871)

Prayer of Invitation

On the night before he died, Jesus gathered with his friends.

Gather us now, lord: in friendship, in hope, in joy.

With simple gifts of bread and wine, may we recognise the gifts we bring to this table.

In the broken bread and outpoured wine,

may we acknowledge the mistakes and failures we carry with us.

May we know our whole selves accepted in this place, just as we are...

Eucharistic Prayer

The president takes the bread and says:

With this bread that we bring

All we shall remember Jesus.

The president takes the wine and says:

With this wine that we bring

All we shall remember Jesus.

Bread for his body, wine for his blood, gifts from God to his table we bring. we shall remember Jesus.

Reader:

All

It is because of its broken-ness that partakers of the bread proclaim the death of Christ, for in his death he was broken. When he gave thanks, Christ broke the bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread and says:

"This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Reader:

"Brokenness lies at the heart of what took place at the Last Supper. Not to discern the brokenness is not to discern the body of Christ and not to realise the paradox of strength through weakness and life through death."*

The president says:

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them,

The president elevates the chalice saying:

This is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Reader:

"We ask that, as we take the body and blood of Christ, we become apostles of inclusion, witnesses of vulnerability and partners in pain." Our prayer, together with the angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, is for ability made perfect in inability.

All Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Reader:

Gathered here around this table, called to share this same bread and wine as one family we are bold to pray:

All Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever.
Amen.

Distribution

Bread and wine are taken to the congregation.

Anointing with oil is offered to those who would like to receive it, following directly on from the receiving of the bread and wine or blessing.

The person offering the anointing will use these words: 'I anoint you to be a sign of God's inclusive love', and the person receiving is invited to respond 'Here I am, send me.'

I anoint you to be a sign of God's inclusive love

All Here I am, send me.

Chant



Words of Dismissal and the Peace

Loving God.

We thank you for feeding us with your bread and wine.

We thank you for all we have shared and learnt today.

We thank you for our similarities and differences.

We thank you for our thoughts, ideas and our truths.

Send us out into the world to serve you,

knowing that you accept us

Just as we are.

The peace of the Lord be always with you,

All And also with you.

We offer one another a sign of peace.

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