



27th March, 2022 Lent 4

WHERE OR WHAT IS HOME?

CALL TO WORSHIP

God forgives us
We are happy!
God protects us
We are happy!
God surrounds us
We are happy!
God instructs us
We are happy!
God loves us
We are happy!


PRAYER OF APPROACH

God of steadfast love, you give us so many reasons to rejoice –
the best reason of all is having been brought so close to you in Jesus.
Through him you enable us to be new people - part of your new creation.
And you have entrusted us with the task of
continuing to give shape to this new creation
by commissioning us as ambassadors of Christ.
By aligning our hearts with yours,
we can speak the words to others
which you have spoken to us in Christ:
“You are loved. You are forgiven.
You are saved.”
We praise you and adore you, O God,
as we offer this prayer in Jesus’ name.
Amen

PRAYER FOR FIRST PEOPLES

In this place, many people have gone before us
who have honoured God
by caring for the Land,
in the ways they have lived
and in the stories they have shared.

We give thanks



for the nations and people,
who have held as sacred
the duty of protecting the Land
and living in harmony with it.

May God honour and bless them
– now and to eternity. (2017 A. Koh-Butler)

SONG

Blessed be the name of the Lord

<https://vimeo.com/worshipwell/download/561635975/3a7623f3fc>

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, you have brought our lives into harmony with yours through the sacrificial love, life, and death of Jesus Christ. You have created us anew in Christ and have entrusted us with the task of living out this newness of life so that others will also come to know you through Christ. We confess that we readily accept the privilege of being a new creation in Christ but all too often we fail to live up to the responsibility which that brings.

When we are content to enjoy newness of life in Christ as a personal experience only,

and fail to accept the challenge of sharing this experience with others.

Forgive us, O God

Being a new creation in Christ means having our identity shaped by Christ himself. When we believe that our identity is shaped by what we do and how well we do it.

Forgive us, O God

Being a new creation in Christ means accepting others in love, as we are accepted by him. When we allow prejudice and judgmental attitudes to undermine our call to be agents of reconciliation.

Forgive us, O God


Being a new creation in Christ means being commissioned to spread the good news of peace and love, justice and mercy, to a world sorely in need of such news. When we fail to live out the values of the gospel, forgetting the high cost to Jesus when he showed us just how much he values and loves us.

Forgive us, O God

We come to you, merciful God, in penitence and faith, praying that you will heal us and forgive us in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

ASSURANCE

If anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation: everything old has passed away: see, everything has become new! We have been reconciled to God through Christ and all this is from God who does not count our trespasses against us - but entrusts us with the message of reconciliation. (Based on 2 Corinthians 5:17, 18,19)



The good news therefore is this: In Jesus Christ we are renewed, and we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(take this time to pray for each other, the community and world)

SONG

Mighty to Save

<https://vimeo.com/worshipwell/download/558976602/3f8f5a184d>

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God, your love for us is revealed in the gifts of Jesus and the Holy Spirit. You call us to make these gifts evident in our lives. Receive and bless this offering as a symbol of our thanksgiving and as a sign of our commitment to be prophetic witnesses of your love and mercy. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen

READINGS

Joshua 5:9-12;

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32.

REFLECTION

<https://vimeo.com/worshipwell/download/689529898/13f972bb6e>

SONG

Shine Jesus, Shine

<https://vimeo.com/worshipwell/download/542953254/4de3e513db>

BLESSING

Go from here

Surrounded by the protective love of God,

Embraced by the reconciling love of Jesus Christ

Renewed by the empowering love of the Holy Spirit.

Amen!

SONG

For you, Deep Stillness

<https://vimeo.com/worshipwell/download/558964781/18a1e37f99>

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PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION:

'There is a new world' (partly based on the epistle for today)- page 51 and

'Choices' - page 305 in *BE OUR FREEDOM, LORD*