

Contemplative Service

On the theme of presence

We commit to journeying together with God and each other, by meeting together as a community in prayer and worship, in friendship and grief and happiness. We aim to be more than just a group of individuals or anonymous people in the city, rather an open community, a hopeful sign.

Invocation

In the name of the Creator,
and of the Redeemer,
and of the Companion.
Amen.

Welcome and Introduction

We step out of the busyness of our day
and travel to this holy place
by car, by tube, by train and bike
with one purpose.
We come before God and each other
and give thanks for this time together.
Amen.

From many different backgrounds and experiences,
We come to seek your presence, O Lord.

From the varied circumstances of life,
We come to seek your presence, O Lord.

From good weeks and bad weeks,
We come to seek your presence, O Lord.

From the stress and pressure of city life,
We come to seek your presence, O Lord.

Five Minutes of Silence

We remember the past week.
We remember the times when we were present
both individually and as a community,
when we were present for each other,
and for our neighbours in this city that is our home.
And we ask forgiveness for the times
when we walked away from those we could have helped.

Three Minutes of Silence

Creator of Light, Son of Love and Companion of Hope,
be born among us, that we may ourselves be born
in prayer, worship, friendship, grief and happiness.
May we be a hopeful sign of community in the city.
Amen, let it be so.

Meditation/Contemplative Prayer

Scripture Reading

Story telling/Reflection followed by a responsive activity

Prayer and Intercession

At this time we pray for each other,
for our community,
our city and for the world we live in.
Pray as you will, aloud or silently.
The refrain after each prayer is *Lord in your mercy*,
and the response is *Hear our prayer*

Allow a time for community prayer

Triune God we offer these prayers to you,
remembering the community around us
and those who can't be with us this evening.
We pray for our city and the neighbours
we will meet in the week to come.
Help us awaken to your presence,
and to be your presence in the lives of those we meet.
**Lord in your mercy, hear these, the prayers of
your people.**

End Liturgy

In the name of the sacred three,
we go once more into a world
which needs our presence,
as a community of love and grace.
**Let us this week remember what it means
to love God and love our neighbour
in whatever disguise we find them.**

May we realise that all people are one
and that there cannot really be joy for any
until there is joy for all.

**We seek to love God and our neighbours.
In the name of Christ.
Amen.**

Blessing & Dismissal

May the love of God the Creator,
the peace of Christ the Redeemer,
and the friendship of the Holy Spirit
go before you and with you into the city,
and the life you will lead this week.
In the name of Christ.
Amen.

**+ In the name of the Creator,
and of the Redeemer,
and of the Companion.
Amen.**