

GOD OF THE MESS

Chorus: God of the mess that we're in,
You still bless us and feel every bump when we fall;
You see the good in our hearts
and you know how we struggle
You fathered and mothered us all.

You see through the eyes of the child on the street
The man on the dole who drinks down defeat
The mother alone - her rent overdue
It's not what you want but it's true. CHORUS

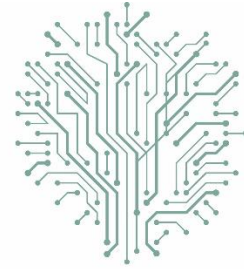
The old man confused, the junkie in gaol,
The baby all bruised- a victim so frail;
Good things go wrong, we try and we fail
Over and over again. CHORUS

But the seasons turn round and wounds they can
mend.
A neighbour comes round- you laugh in the end.
You take a deep breath and count up to ten
And start it all over again.

FINAL CHORUS:

God of the mess that we're in,
You still bless us and feel every bump when we fall;
You see the good in our hearts
and you know how we struggle
You fathered and mothered us all.
You fathered and mothered us all.
You fathered and mothered us all.
Oh yes, we know you did -
You fathered and mothered us all.

Words & music by Peter Kearney
credits



SALTBUSH
UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Matthew 5:1-12
God's World of Difference

Welcome

We come to hear the Good News, to embody the love of God in Christ as we share our lives with others.

Lighting of Christ Candle

God's truth is revealed in Jesus Christ the light of the world. May the light shine for the hope of the world.

Responses & Gathering Prayer

God of eternal Grace, turn us inside out to see:
wisdom is foolishness and foolishness wise.

**In the presence of God, the lowly are raised up,
those who mourn are comforted and the weak are
made strong.**

Source of all life, we call upon you not with the
wafting smoke of burnt offerings or the lustre of our
noble births but with humble hearts.

**Let joy, peace, mercy and justice be found in our life
with you. In Christ we pray. Amen. ***

Song

God of the Mess. By Peter Kearney
<https://peterkearney.bandcamp.com/track/34-god-of-the-mess>

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

You are invited to turn to those around you and offer them a word of greeting and peace.

The Word around the Bush

Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. ⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. ⁸"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. ⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

The Message

From your Scattered Community Minister or another leader within your gathering.

Questions for conversation

- What does being blessed mean to you?
- How does the Sermon on the Mount challenge your thinking and also you Christian community?

Silence in Two Ways

Spend some time in silence sitting still (suggested 5 minutes). Close your eyes lightly. Sit relaxed but alert.

Prayers for Others

Loving God.

Give us the will and courage to intercede on behalf of others, putting ourselves in service of those who mourn, to the meek, of those who seek peace and to the merciful. Give us strength to be strong for others. (pause for silent prayer)

Give us the wisdom to intercede on behalf of others, putting ourselves in service of those who have been slandered, exploited, humiliated and despised. Give us the wisdom to wise counsel and advocate for others. (pause for silent prayer)

Give us the humility to intercede for others, putting ourselves in the service of those who are ignored, overlooked and denied their dignity.

Give us the humility to recognise our common humanity and the grace that binds us, one to another. (pause for silent prayer)

Where is the one who is wise? Let it be us, but wise with your wisdom: not as the world demands; not intent on getting ahead but committed to bringing others along.

We see your way, a better way, and we pray for the will and the wisdom to follow, with open hearts. Amen.*

Music for Reflection:

Be Still and Know that I am God instrumental
Mary Brizard

<https://marybrizard1.bandcamp.com/track/be-still-and-know-that-i-am-god>

Closing Responses & Blessing

God be with you, blessing you with mercy, peace, poverty of spirit and a hunger for righteousness. Christ be with you, blessing you with wisdom and truth.

Holy Spirit be with you, showing you the way. Amen.

* Words for Worship. UCA. MediaCom Education.