Holy Spirit, storm and breath of love; bridge-builder, eye-opener, waker of the oppressed, unseen and unexpected, untameable energy of life - we praise and adore you. Hear our prayer for other people we know and are close to ...

Silence

Holy Trinity, forever one, whose nature is community; source of all sharing, in whom we love, and meet, and know our neighbour: life in all its fullness, making all things new: we praise and adore you. Hear our prayer for our church, our wider community and for ourselves ... Silence

Hear all these our prayers who sends us out Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Adapted from - Brian Wren, Christian Aid Prayers, 1980. http://www.christianaid.org.uk/resources/churches/prayer/churchseasons.aspx

Music for Reflection

Suggested song: Because we bear your name...

Acknowledgment: © Robin Mann

https://robinmann.bandcamp.com/track/because-we-bear-your-name

Closing Responses & Blessing

Go out into the world, To love and serve the Lord.

Bless us and the people we meet along the way.

Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Luke 13: 10 -17 Pentecost 11

Welcome

An opportunity to welcome people to the gathering

Welcome to Country

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we find ourselves, the people, and we pay our respects to their elders, past present and emerging.

Responses & Gathering Prayer

As we gather today and sit one beside each other we give thanks that God welcomes us into love.

We gather with Christ, the light of the world, the hand of liberation, who unbinds and brings life.

Draw near to us Lord God, as we enter this time and place.

We confess the ways we bind up, are limited by closed thinking, and for the times we no longer expect the remarkable way of God around us. [silence]

Come to us Holy Spirit, within and around us, that we would hear your word for our lives as we gather today.

Amen.

Music for Reflection

Suggested song: Come Lord Jesus Come...

Acknowledgment: © John Coleman

https://johncoleman.bandcamp.com/track/com

e-lord-jesus

Passing the 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

Luke 13: 10-17

Jesus Heals a Crippled Woman

10 Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. 11 And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. 12 When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, 'Woman, you are set free from your ailment.' 13 When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. 14 But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, 'There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.' 15 But the Lord answered him and said, 'You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? 16 And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?' 17 When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

The Message

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

Questions for conversation

- •What do you notice in today's passage from Luke 13 and what stands out to you?
- Where do you see today's passage reflected in our world or in your own life?
- •What will you take with you from today's conversation and Word around the Bush?

A Time of Silence

Spend some time in silence sitting still; a time of "sitting with God" — a silent time in which we focus all our mind, heart and soul on the presence of God without trying to create it. Simply be still and open to God.

Prayers for Others

Living Love,
beginning and end,
giver of food and drink,
clothing and warmth,
love and hope:
life in all its goodness we praise and adore you.
Hear our prayer for your creation ...
Silence

Jesus, wisdom and word;
lover of outcasts,
friend of the poor;
one of us yet one with God;
crucified and risen:
life in the midst of death we praise and adore you.
Hear our prayer for others we have heard about
throughout our world ...
Silence