

Opening Prayers

Dear Lord, as we gather in this place, with you already present – you accept us as we are and that is an immeasurable gift. You expect the broken, the unable, the hurting, the lost, those who are grieving, who mourn and those deeply troubled. You know we sit side by side as victims and perpetrators, survivors, and bystanders. You know our deepest needs.

Thank you, Lord for the many opportunities to be renewed by your spirit. For the ways you make it possible through people and organisations, to be loved back to wholeness.

You have created us to be curious enough to find our way when we do not think we can return because your love is always enveloped in grace.

You invite us to question how we are living, whom we are hurting, and whose lives are shaped in painful or life-giving ways by our words and actions.

Thank you for holding our hurting, for not expecting perfection in the way we expect it of ourselves and others, but rather you make it possible for us to know that there is always more goodness to come and more justice to come. You stir within us a yearning for the world to be more gentle, kinder, and more caring.

Dear God, we are in adoration of the way you have created us in your image, we are all miracles. We need to be reminded to come to you, forgetting you are already always in us, as there is no here and there, there is no this place and that place, there is no outside and inside...for you are.

Our Father/Mother ...