Reflection Guide

Who is Jesus to Me?

Receiving Christ’s Peace

Receive, Embody, and Share Christ’s Peace
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Introduction

This guide provides space to record reflections about “Who is Jesus to me?” It also includes six scripture-based missional practices, each offering different ways to receive and encounter the living Christ. Take a moment to reflect on these quotes:

*By taking on the life and mind of Christ, you increasingly view yourselves and others from a changed perspective.* - Doctrine and Covenants 164:5

*If we want to be witnesses like Jesus, our only concern should be to be as alive with the love of God as Jesus was.* - Henri Nouwen

*The purpose of the... practices is not to make us more religious. It is to make us more alive. Alive to God, Alive to our spouses, parents, children, neighbors, strangers, and yes, even our enemies... Alive to open books and folded sheets, a sleeping dog, migrating geese, frying eggs, everything... We join God in seeing.* – Brian McLaren, Finding Our Way Again, p.182-183

*Let’s go deeper with Christ so we can go deeper with one another. This is the essence of embracing and living into our divine identity as Community of Christ. It is God’s intent that we create spiritual safety and intimacy for one another as space for us to be vulnerable to divine grace. This is so important! It is in this space where we truly discover how to receive and give Christ’s peace as invitation, hospitality, compassionate ministry and transformational ministry. In this sacred space of safety and trust with God and one another we can view ourselves and others from a changed perspective. (Doctrine and Covenants 164:5) This is why we are taking the time to get know Christ as the full revelation of God – there is so much more yet to see and do.* - Ron Harmon

Together, let’s explore incarnational mission—each day going deeper in our relationship with God in Christ who calls, inspires, and challenges us be a unique expression of God’s nature individually and in community as the body of Christ. Using this guide, let’s explore this essential question:

“How can I nurture a daily relationship with the Living Christ to receive his invitation?”

**Receive, Embody, and Share Christ’s Peace**
Who Is Jesus to Me? —Notes Page for Reflections

While viewing the video “Who is Jesus to Me?”

Listen for words or phrases that connect and open up aspects of your story.

After viewing the video:

Take 20 minutes to note words or phrases that emerge about who Jesus is to you:

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Note key words or phrases you would share about “Who is Jesus to Me?”

Opportunity to do this will be in triads:

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Receive, Embody, and Share Christ’s Peace
Descriptions—Six Missional Practices: To Receive Christ’s Invitation

Below are brief descriptions of six missional practices that offer various approaches to being open to Christ’s invitation while reflecting on a story of Jesus from the Gospels. **Choose two missional practices to try during this retreat.**

1. **Craft Making: Receiving Christ’s Invitation**—Encounter Christ’s invitation by creatively using your hands and scripture.

2. **Hymn Reading: Receiving Christ’s Invitation**—Encounter Christ’s invitation through dwelling in song lyrics.

3. **Imaginative Contemplation: Receiving Christ’s Invitation**—Encounter Christ’s invitation by placing one’s self with Jesus in a story of scripture.

4. **Prayer of Examen: Receiving Christ’s Invitation**—Encounter Christ’s invitation by reflecting on your life as it unfolds each day.

5. **In Creation: Receiving Christ’s Invitation**—Encounter Christ’s invitation by being fully present in creation.

6. **Writing a Poem: Receiving Christ’s Invitation**—Encounter Christ’s invitation by reflecting on one’s life experience and writing a poem.
Craft Making: Receiving Christ’s Invitation—A Missional Practice

*Missional practices: cultivating new understandings, ways of being, and living Christ’s mission.*

**Purpose:** to be awake to Christ’s invitation in a story of scripture from the four Gospels and as you do a craft, such as knitting, carpentry or gardening. Inviting People to Christ includes our increasing awareness of all the ways to slow down and see, hear, taste, feel, and experience the presence of the living Christ in the seemingly routine and ordinary experience of our daily lives. Christ’s invitation is about being awaken to the reality of the living Christ expressed in so many ways – doing the dishes, knitting, wood carving or finishing furniture.

**Steps:**
1. Become aware of the presence of God and awake to Christ’s invitation. Take a moment to be calm and centered.
2. Choose and read a text from the four Gospels in the spirit of prayer, seeking to be closer to the Living Christ.
3. While engaging in the use of your hands, value these moments as opportunities to “slow down” and being in harmony with God for God to guide you to new insights or feelings of well-being.
4. Consider exploring one or more of these questions:
   - How does this activity minister to you?
   - What is it about this activity or moment that awakens you to Christ’s invitation?
5. Offer a prayer of gratitude.

**Tips for the Process:**
- Seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit to draw closer to the Living Christ by remembering his ever being present and his invitation to share life with him.
- Do not rush—take time. There may be days when you follow each step. Other days, you may want to stay only with one or two steps.
- The key is simplicity and not being constrained by each step.
- Consider beginning your day with the Mission Prayer and then remembering it while doing an activity with your hands.

Receive, Embody, and Share Christ’s Peace
Hymn Reading: Receiving Christ’s Invitation—a Missional Practice

Missional practices: cultivating new understandings, ways of being, and living Christ’s mission.

Purpose: to be awake to Christ’s invitation by recognizing Christ’s invitation in a story of scripture from the four Gospels and in reading a hymn that calls us to compassionate ministry. This practice is inspired by the fact that we, Community of Christ, have many new hymns in Community of Christ Sings that challenge us to offer compassionate ministries.

Steps:
1. Become aware of the presence of God and awake to Christ’s invitation. Take a moment to be calm and centered.
2. Choose and read a text from the four Gospels in the spirit of prayer, seeking to be closer to the Living Christ.
3. Choose and read a hymn.
4. Invite God’s Spirit to open your heart and mind to guide you to a particular aspect of the hymn such as a word, phrase, feeling or image.
5. Take a few moments to reflect on what you sense God may be bringing into your awareness.
6. Consider one of these questions:
   - How can I be more compassionate towards myself, loved ones, or a neighbor?
   - Is there a need for compassion that only I can meet?
   - What new ways am I seeing or responding to Christ’s invitation?
7. Offer a prayer of gratitude and be ready to share your compassion in ministry.

Tips for the Process:
- Seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit to draw closer to the Living Christ by remembering his ever being present and his invitation to share life with him.
- Be aware of hymns sung in congregational worship that you may want to choose.
- Do not rush—take time. There may be days when you follow each step. Other days, you may want to stay only with one or two steps. There is no particular length—less or longer than 10 minutes is fine.
- The key is simplicity and not being constrained by each step.
- Find and follow a pattern that works for you.
- Consider beginning your day with the Mission Prayer.

Receive, Embody, and Share Christ’s Peace
Imaginative Contemplation: Receiving Christ’s Invitation—A Missional Practice

Missional practices: cultivating new understandings, ways of being, and living Christ’s mission.

Purpose: to be awake to Christ’s invitation by reading and imagining or placing one’s self with Jesus in a story of scripture from the four Gospels. Rather than just using our thoughts and memories, we place ourselves in a story from the Gospels to encounter the Living Christ in a personal way by use of all or any of our senses. To receive Christ we must know him! This practice is inspired and adapted from the spiritual practice “Imaginative Contemplation” developed by Ignatius of Loyola.*

Steps:
1. Become aware of the presence of God and awake to Christ’s invitation. Take a moment to become calm and centered.
2. Choose and read a text from the four Gospels in the spirit of prayer seeking to be closer to the Living Christ.
3. Read the text a 2nd time and visualize and sense the scene or event by sensing the details: sights, sounds, tastes, smells, and feelings of the event.
4. Place yourself in the scene and spirit of the story in a way that makes sense to you, whether in the Biblical time or a modern time or circumstance for a personal encounter with the Living Christ.
5. Invite the Holy Spirit to reveal the Living Christ in a way that is meaningful for you now.
6. End this time by reading the same passage of scripture in a spirit of prayer and conversation—heart to heart talk with Jesus—using your everyday language as you would with a friend.

Tips for the Process:

- Request the Holy Spirit to draw you closer to the Living Christ by remembering his promise to always be with you and his invitation to share life with you.
- Use your imagination. Although, it takes an ‘imaginary’ eye to see yourself in the scripture, this practice is enhanced when we use all of our senses and imagine the elements in the ‘scene’ of the scripture such as wind, the dry heat, the spray of water, feelings of joy, sorrow, tiredness, and any thoughts that would ‘go through one’s head.’
- Do not rush—take time. There may be days when you follow each step. Other days, you may want to stay with only one or two steps. There is no particular length—less or longer than 10 - 20 minutes is fine.
- The key is simplicity and not being constrained by each step. Find and follow a pattern that works for you.
- Consider beginning this practice with the Mission Prayer.

**Prayer of Examen: Receiving Christ’s Invitation—A Missional Practice**

*Missional practices: cultivating new understandings, ways of being, and living Christ’s mission.*

**Purpose:** to be awake to Christ’s invitation in a story of scripture from the four Gospels and reflecting on your life as it unfolds each day. To receive Christ we must know him! This practice is inspired and adapted from the spiritual practice “Prayer of Examen” developed by Ignatius of Loyola.*

**Steps:**

1. Become aware of the presence of God and awake to Christ’s invitation. Take a moment to become calm and centered.
2. Choose and read a text from the four Gospels in the spirit of prayer, seeking to be closer to the Living Christ.
3. Spend a few moments recalling your day with gratitude and reverence. Let the details, events and conversations drift through your memory. Identify feelings, emotions, insights or times that touched your heart—either enlivening or disheartening.
   - Gratitude reveals what we value and what brings us joy or meaning.
   - Reverence allows us to see the ordinary parts of our day as sacred opportunities.
4. Choose a feeling, emotion, insight or time in your day and pray from it. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal how this may draw you closer to the Living Christ and his invitation.
5. Look forward to the remainder of the day or toward tomorrow. Talk with Jesus like a friend. Be honest and open. Use everyday language. Leave times for silence to listen. Share your feelings. Ask for his help and wisdom about the questions you have, the desires of your heart and the problems you face.

**Tips for the Process:**

- Request the Holy Spirit to draw you closer to the Living Christ by remembering his promise to always be with you and his invitation to share life with you.
- Do not rush—take time. There may be days when you follow each step. Other days, you may want to stay with only one or two steps. There is no particular length—less or longer than 10 – 20 minutes is fine.
- The key is simplicity and not being constrained by each step.
- Find and follow a pattern that works for you.
- Consider beginning your day with the Mission Prayer then with a Prayer of Examen at noon and before you go to bed.

*See more at Ignatian Spirituality at [http://www.ignatianspirituality.com/ignatian-prayer/the-examen/#sthash.u7RB0O6Q.dpuf](http://www.ignatianspirituality.com/ignatian-prayer/the-examen/#sthash.u7RB0O6Q.dpuf) and Pastors and Leaders Field Guide at [http://www.cofchrist.org/leaders/CL-spiritualpractices.asp#2](http://www.cofchrist.org/leaders/CL-spiritualpractices.asp#2)
In Creation: Receiving Christ’s Invitation—A Missional Practice

**Missional practices:** cultivating new understandings, ways of being, and living Christ’s mission.

**Purpose:** to be awake to Christ’s invitation in a story of scripture from the four Gospels and by being attentive to creation. Receiving Christ’s invitation is about being awake to the reality of the Living Christ expressed in so many ways—in relationships, in the beauty of nature, music, and art, as well as in circumstances of pain or violence where one would not expect God’s future to emerge.

**Steps:**

1. Become aware of the presence of God and awake to Christ’s invitation. Take a moment to become calm and centered.
2. Choose and read a text from the four Gospels in the spirit of prayer seeking to be closer to the Living Christ. A text to consider is “Lilies of the Fields – Matthew 6: 25-34.”
3. If helpful, read and reflect on a poem or quote on the following page.
4. If able, go outdoors and be present to an aspect of creation. If unable to be outdoors, use art, photography or a web-site to “put you in touch” with creation.
5. Invite the Holy Spirit to guide you to a particular aspect of creation and take a few moments for it to be present to you and how it may minister to you.
6. Consider exploring one or more of these questions:
   - What is it about this place or aspect of creation that causes you to be awakened to it?
   - How does this place or aspect of nature invite you into Christ’s peace?
7. Offer a prayer of gratitude.

**Tips for the Process:**

- Request the Holy Spirit to draw you closer to the Living Christ by remembering his promise to always be with you and his invitation to share life with you.
- Do not rush—take time. There may be days when you follow each step. Other days, you may want to stay with only one or two steps. There is no particular length—less or longer than 10 - 20 minutes is fine.
- The key is simplicity and not being constrained by each step.
- Find and follow a pattern that works for you.
- Consider beginning this practice with the Mission Prayer.
- **Alternative**—go and focus on one square yard of ground. No matter how plain looking and uninteresting, let the ordinary speak—in silence, not going from one place to another.
What We Need is Here
By Wendell Berry

Geese appear high over us,
pass, and the sky closes.
Abandon, as in love or sleep,
holds them to their way,
clear in the ancient faith:
what we need is here. And we pray,
not for new earth or heaven,
but to be quiet in heart, and in eye, clear.
What we need is here.

Aurora Leigh: a Poem
By Elizabeth Barrett Browning

Earth’s crammed with heaven,
And every common bush afire with God;
But only he, who sees, takes off his shoes—
The rest sit around it and pluck blackberries.

Lead
By Mary Oliver

Here is a story to break your heart. Are you willing?
This winter the loons came to our harbor and died,
one by one, of nothing we could see.
A friend told me of one on the shore that lifted its head
and opened the elegant beak and cried out in the long,
sweet savoring of its life, which, if you have heard it,
you know is a sacred thing, and for which, if you have not heard it,
you had better hurry to where they still sing.
And, believe me, tell no one just where that is.
The next morning this loon, speckled and iridescent
and with a plan to fly home to some hidden lake,
was dead on the shore. I tell you this to break your heart,
by which I mean only that it break open
and never close again to the rest of the world.

In this vision he showed me a
little thing,
the size of a hazelnut,
and it was round as a ball.
I looked at it with the eye of
my understanding
and thought
"What may this be?"
And it was generally
answered thus:
"It is all that is made."
I marveled how it might last,
for it seemed it might
suddenly
have sunk into nothing
because of its littleness.
And I was answered in my
understanding:
"It lasts and ever shall,
because God loves it."

- Julian of Norwich

Receive, Embody, and Share Christ’s Peace
Writing a Poem: Receiving Christ’s Invitation—A Missional Practice

Missional practices: cultivating new understandings, ways of being, and living Christ’s mission.

Purpose: to be awake to Christ’s invitation in a story of scripture from the four Gospels and by reflecting on an experience from one’s life and then writing a poem.

Steps:
1. Become aware of the presence of God and awake to Christ’s invitation. Take a moment to be calm and centered.
2. Choose and read a text from the four Gospels in the spirit of prayer seeking to be closer to the Living Christ.
3. See next page for an example of a pattern to follow (using excerpts from Seasons of the Heart: Prayers and Reflections by Macrina Wiederkehr) and then:
   - Read the text a 2nd time.
   - Invite God’s Spirit to help you recall an experience or observation from your own life related to the scripture.
   - Write a few sentences about your experience or observation and its connection to the scripture.
   - Compose a poem. You may only be able to begin writing a poem. It may take days to complete your poem. Note: a poem does not have to rhyme or be in complete sentences. Often, just beginning your poem with a few words that reflect and remind you how you are feeling can be the basis of a good and even a short poem.
4. End this time in a spirit of prayer.

Tips for the Process:
- Seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit to draw closer to the Living Christ by remembering his ever being present and his invitation to share life with him.
- Do not rush—take time. There may be days when you follow each step. Other days, you may want to stay only with one or two steps. There is no particular length—less or longer than 10-20 minutes daily is fine. Be willing to spend multiple days to complete your poem. Find and follow a pattern that works for you.
- The key is simplicity and not being constrained by each step.
Read a text from the Gospels (the text below illustrates a connection to the reflection quoted):

Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” The Samaritan woman said to him, “What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?” Jesus replied: “If you only knew what God is offering and who it is saying to you: ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.”

—John 4:7-10, JB

Write a reflection (the reflection below illustrates a connection to the poem quoted):

Sometimes I get tired of walking with strangers. Sometimes I get tired of giving drinks. One such tired moment found me in the Kansas City airport. I was on my way to Phoenix to give myself a drink, a workshop given by the monks of Weston Priory.

But strangers have a way of bumping into me even when I’m not handing out free drinks. This one was obviously very thirsty. And before I realized what was happening, I became the woman at the well asking the same kind of questions, struggling with the same living water. Looking into the eyes of that thirsty stranger, I was able with the help of grace to notice that his well was deep and that I did, after all, have a bucket.*

Write a poem: (the poem below illustrates a connection to the text and reflection quoted):

I’m tired of giving drinks
I’m closing up my well for the winter
I’m throwing the bucket away
By the time I get to Phoenix
I’ll be ready for a few drinks myself.

But I hadn’t even gotten out of Kansas City
when someone came up to me
already wanting a drink.

He was old
and not used to traveling alone.
He had just had knee surgery
and couldn’t get around very well.
He wanted to talk.

I back away in my heart.
Everything in me said:
“Giving drinks is not in season for me
My well is closed for the winter

Don’t ask me for a drink
Please don’t
I am too empty
I am thirsty myself.”
But it was too late
I had already seen his eyes
I had already heard his voice.
“Give me a drink,” it said...

And I?
Well, I didn’t cancel my trip to Phoenix
but I was filled
with a new kind of vision
and I knew that
by the time I got to Phoenix
My well would be open again.*

Receiving Christ’s Invitation—Notes Page for Reflections

Two Essential Questions:

How can I, in ways meaningful for me, receive Christ’s invitation to a deeper relationship, new life and wholeness?

How am I making room daily to receive Christ’s invitation to a relationship, new way of being, and new way of seeing?

After trying two of the six missional practices:

Note your reflections on the essential questions:

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Note ways you are now considering a missional practice to be awake to Christ’s invitation to you: (You can adopt or adapt any or all of the six missional practices or create your own.)

Opportunity to do this will be in triads:

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Receive, Embody, and Share Christ’s Peace
Selected Gospel Scriptures

Consider the Lilies of the Field – Matthew 6:25-35 NRSV

‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, “What will we eat?” or “What will we drink?” or “What will we wear?” For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God* and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

‘So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

Jesus Forgives and Heals a Paralyzed Man - Mark 2:1-12 NRSV

When he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them. Then some people came, bringing to him a paralysed man, carried by four of them. And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, ‘Son, your sins are forgiven.’ Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, ‘Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?’ At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among the ms; and he said to them, ‘Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, “Your sins are forgiven”, or to say, “Stand up and take your mat and walk”? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins’—he said to the paralytic— ‘I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home.’ And he stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, ‘We have never seen anything like this!’
The Transfiguration – Matthew 17:1-13 NRSV

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.” And the disciples asked him, “Why, then, do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?” He replied, “Elijah is indeed coming and will restore all things; but I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but they did to him whatever they pleased. So also the Son of Man is about to suffer at their hands.” Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them about John the Baptist.

Walking on the Water - Matthew 14:22-33 The Message

As soon as the meal was finished, he insisted that the disciples get in the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he dismissed the people. With the crowd dispersed, he climbed the mountain so he could be by himself and pray. He stayed there alone, late into the night.

Meanwhile, the boat was far out to sea when the wind came up against them and they were battered by the waves. At about four o’clock in the morning, Jesus came toward them walking on the water. They were scared out of their wits. “A ghost!” they said, crying out in terror. But Jesus was quick to comfort them. “Courage, it’s me. Don’t be afraid."

Peter, suddenly bold, said, “Master, if it’s really you, call me to come to you on the water.”

He said, “Come ahead."

Jumping out of the boat, Peter walked on the water to Jesus. But when he looked down at the waves churning beneath his feet, he lost his nerve and started to sink. He cried, “Master, save me!”

Jesus didn’t hesitate. He reached down and grabbed his hand. Then he said, “Faint-heart, what got into you?”

The two of them climbed into the boat, and the wind died down. The disciples in the boat, having watched the whole thing, worshiped Jesus, saying, “This is it! You are God’s Son for sure!”

Receive, Embody, and Share Christ’s Peace
Woman at the Well - John 4: 4-26 The Message

To get there, he had to pass through Samaria. He came into Sychar, a Samaritan village that bordered the field Jacob had given his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was still there. Jesus, worn out by the trip, sat down at the well. It was noon.

A woman, a Samaritan, came to draw water. Jesus said, “Would you give me a drink of water?” (His disciples had gone to the village to buy food for lunch.) The Samaritan woman, taken aback, asked, “How come you, a Jew, are asking me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?” (Jews in those days wouldn’t be caught dead talking to Samaritans.)

Jesus answered, “If you knew the generosity of God and who I am, you would be asking me for a drink, and I would give you fresh, living water.”

The woman said, “Sir, you don’t even have a bucket to draw with, and this well is deep. So how are you going to get this ‘living water?’ Are you a better man than our ancestor Jacob, who dug this well and drank from it, he and his sons and livestock, and passed it down to us?”

Jesus said, “Everyone who drinks this water will get thirsty again and again. Anyone who drinks the water I give will never thirst—not ever. The water I give will be an artesian spring within, gushing fountains of endless life.”

The woman said, “Sir, give me this water so I won’t ever get thirsty, won’t ever have to come back to this well again!”

He said, “Go call your husband and then come back.” “I have no husband,” she said. “That’s nicely put: ‘I have no husband.’ You’ve had five husbands, and the man you’re living with now isn’t even your husband. You spoke the truth there, sure enough.”

“Oh, so you’re a prophet! Well, tell me this: Our ancestors worshiped God at this mountain, but you Jews insist that Jerusalem is the only place for worship, right?”

“Believe me, woman, the time is coming when you Samaritans will worship the Father neither here at this mountain nor there in Jerusalem. You worship guessing in the dark; we Jews worship in the clear light of day. God’s way of salvation is made available through the Jews. But the time is coming—it has, in fact, come—when what you’re called will not matter and where you go to worship will not matter.

“It’s who you are and the way you live that count before God. Your worship must engage your spirit in the pursuit of truth. That’s the kind of people the Father is out looking for: those who are simply and honestly themselves before him in their worship. God is sheer being itself—Spirit. Those who worship him must do it out of their very being, their spirits, their true selves, in adoration.”

The woman said, “I don’t know about that. I do know that the Messiah is coming. When he arrives, we’ll get the whole story.”

“I am he,” said Jesus. “You don’t have to wait any longer or look any further.”

Receive, Embody, and Share Christ’s Peace
Find Your Wholeness

1. Find your wholeness in the reaching, in the lifting
2. Find your meaning in the holding, in the shaping
3. Find your purpose in the feeding, in the showing
4. Find your comfort in the crying, in the lying
5. Find my strength in your believing, in your sacrificing

and the teaching, through your presence I am with them;
and the molding, through your presence I am with them;
and the leading, through your presence I am with them;
with the dying, through your presence I am with you;
face true living, through my Spirit I am with you;

if you love me, feed my sheep.

Words: Ralph E. Freeman, 1933–
Music: David Bolton, 1984–
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Music © 2001 Community of Christ

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FEED MY SHEEP

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CALLING AND VOCATION

The Summons

1 Will you come and follow me if I but call
2 Will you leave yourself behind if I but call
3 Will you let the blind see if I but call
4 Will you love the “you” you hide if I but call
5 Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call

your name? Will you go where you don’t know and never
your name? Will you care for cruel and kind and never
your name? Will you set the prison’s free and never
your name? Will you quell the fear inside and never
my name. Let me turn and follow you and never

be the same? Will you let my love be shown,
be the same? Will you risk the hostile stare
be the same? Will you kiss the leper clean,
be the same? Will you use the faith you’ve found
be the same. In your company I’ll go

should your life attract or scare?
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to re-shape the world around,
and through my sight and where your love and footsteps show.

life be grown in you and you in me?
answer prayer in you and you in me?
what I mean in you and you in me?
touch and sound in you and you in me?
live and grow in you and you in me.

Words: John L. Bell, 1949–
Music: Scottish melody; arr. John L. Bell, 1949–
Words and Music © 1987 WELSB, International (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

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Receive, Embody, and Share Christ’s Peace
Who Is This Jesus

1 Who is this Jesus, whose voice we have heard, whose
Who is this Jesus, whose light we have seen, whose
Who is this Jesus, whose love we have known, whose
Jesus is human, our flesh and our blood, but

2 actions reveal and illumine God's word, whose
shining in splendor turns barren earth green, whose
hunger and pain were as real as our own, whose
also the image and fullness of God. This

3 stories surprising new insights impart, whose
rising in glory prevails over death, whose
power and compassion are with us to heal, whose
Jesus is Christ and on him we depend, our

4 gospel is joy for the humble of heart?
Spirit of wisdom gives beauty and breath?
Life in a abundance we share in this meal?
Solid rock center, beginning, and end.

Words: Delores Dufner, OSB, 1939–
Music: Irish melody; harm. Jack Schrader, 1942–
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Music harm. © 1993 Hope Publishing Company

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