

## **DRAW NEAR WITH FAITH**

In this period of lock down many Christians are missing sharing the Lord's Supper with others. The liturgy below is not a communion service. Instead it seeks to draw believers into deeper communion with God and with others, using scripture, meditative and contemplative prayer, and action. It is particularly designed for those in isolation at the moment.

*Zephaniah 3:17*

*The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing.*

*Luke 22:19-20*

*And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you."*

*1 Corinthians 3:23-26*

*For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*

*John 6:35*

*Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."*

*Hebrews 10:22*

*Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.*

Find a quiet space in your home.

- Give thanks to God for his presence with you.
- Be aware of God's loving eyes watching over you.
- Take some time to look back over the previous week.
- Where have you been close to God?
- Where have you wandered away?
- Say sorry for those times you have wandered away.
- Receive God's forgiveness.

Take time to read the four passages of scripture above.

- Which one resonates with you most?
- Read that passage again slowly.
- What words or phrases strike you?
- Read the passage once more.
- Stay with one of the words or phrases and hold it in the stillness before God.
- In that stillness become aware of your part in the wider body of Christ.

Take your mind to the last supper where Jesus shares the Passover meal with his disciples.

- What do you notice?
- What do you see; hear; smell; taste; touch?
- What does Jesus say to you?
- How do you respond?
- Give thanks to God.

