

## Café Church “Because we Belong” – 16 October 2022

### ***Welcome and Gathering Words***

Why are we here today?

**We have come to worship the God who saves us.**

God is always with us. God is not confined to Church,  
**But we have come to worship together, and to encourage one another.**

How shall we worship a God so great and wonderful?  
**We will pray to Him, and praise Him, and tell Him we love him,**  
**We will say we are sorry for what we have spoiled of his creation,**  
**We will be refreshed by his love and forgiveness,**  
**We will listen to His word and learn from him.**

God created the earth, the sea, and the sky.  
What can we offer to so great a God?  
**We offer what He most wants: our hearts and our love.**  
**We offer our lives, to live in mercy, peace, love and justice.**  
**We offer back his gifts to us for His work.**

When we leave, God will be with us in our daily lives,  
**We shall live as we worship, aware of God’s presence with us every day.**

***Song:*** Let our praise be our welcome (Here for You)

***Table Activity:*** Being a member

**Reading:** Acts 2: 43-47

**Songs:** Over the mountains and the sea *and* When the music fades

**Reading:** Romans 12: 4-5

**Sharing:** Because we Belong

**Readings:** 1 Peter 2: 9-10 and Hebrews 10: 24-25

***We acknowledge our weaknesses:***

Let's ask the Lord's forgiveness for the times where we have not acted as one body with many members, and so have not brought him glory:

**Father, thank you for calling us into your family, where we belong to one another and to you.**

**We are sorry when we haven't loved each other - Father forgive us and help us to change.**

**We are sorry when we have failed to use our gifts to serve you - Father forgive us and help us to change.**

**We are sorry when we haven't been prayerful - Father forgive us and help us to change.**

**We are sorry when we have put ourselves first - Father forgive us and help us to change, in Jesus' name. Amen.**

***(a moment of silence)***

**Holy Spirit of God, please come and fill us afresh with your life. Change us and mould us so that we might bring you glory. Amen.**

***Hymn:*** The Spirit came, as promised

***Prayers:***

**God of all creation, God of love, we pray that the walls that divide us shall be taken down, and with the bricks and stones let us build bridges between us; that we may learn from each other not to fear each other and may more easily come to keep faith with the greatest commandment. That is: To love our God with all our heart and mind and strength, and each other as we love ourselves. Amen.**

**Compassionate God, who sent Jesus Christ to deliver us from all manner of injustices and inequalities, create in us new hearts and enlarged visions, to see the image of God in every person irrespective of background, race and ethnicity. May we be generous in our love of others as we work towards ending misunderstanding, racism and injustice; creating communities of human flourishing, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

***Notices***

***Song:*** Bless the Lord, O my soul (10,000 reasons)

***Blessing one another:***

**May the love of Jesus Christ bring us wholeness, the grace  
of God the Father grant us peace,  
the breath of Holy Spirit instil passion and the unity  
between them give us strength for this and every day.  
Amen**