

I've been meaning to ask... where does it hurt?

From Sanctified Art

August 22, 2021

CCL license 2710756

Call to Worship

Family of faith, this must be the place.

This is the place for connection and growth, for community and hope.

This must be the place for questions like, "Where are you from?" and, "What do you need?"

For whispers of: "I've been thinking of you," and, "I've been meaning to ask. . ."

This must be the place, because all belong here.

All are welcome here.

All hurt and joy, needs and prayers, dreams and love, are welcome here.

So for our call to worship today, we are going to lean into invitation for connection.

I want to invite you to take two minutes to introduce yourself to someone around you and to share one thing that has brought you deep joy this week so that we might begin our service with joy, gratitude, and connection.

God is near. Let us worship Holy God.

Hymn

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, sometimes life feels like cooking with flour—it looks like it should be easy, but we always make a mess. This is particularly true when it comes to our relationships. We so desperately long to say the right thing, to be the right thing, to find the right solution, that we overstep the line. Forgive us for assuming the place You fill. Forgive us for imagining that we, in all our humanity, could possibly fix all the hurt in this world. Instead, give us the grace and the strength to stand by our loved ones in their moments of need to witness their hurt without trying to fix it. You are God. We are not. Teach us how to be a friend. Teach us how to ask, "What do you need?" Teach us how to point to You. Gratefully we pray. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Every day is a new day for love.
We are claimed. We are forgiven.
We are invited into relationship.
Thanks be to God for growth and grace that know no end.
Amen.

Hymn

Passing of the Peace

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.
People: And also with you!

Affirmation of Faith

We believe in relationships.
We believe in asking hard questions,
in showing up for one another,
and in sitting together through the pain.
We believe in listening with grace,
learning with curiosity,
and apologizing with sincerity.
We believe in asking for help,
saying what we need,
and trusting that no degree of vulnerability
could strip us of God's love.
We believe in trying our best
and offering grace
when our best is not enough.
And we believe that God is in all relationships—
modeling for us the value of community
through the relationships of the Trinity.
So we love today,
and we strive to love
even more tomorrow.
Let it be so. Amen.

Scripture

Sermon

Pastor Erin

Hymn

Blessing