

Stone Ritual

Wednesday, June 30, evening (following the sermon)

Table set up directly to side of lower stage Room to walk by on either side Paper covering table, "Jesus" traced in large letters Coloured glass pebbles filling traced letters (variety of colours in each)

Worship Leader:

We have just sung that we are a people transformed, called in this hour. We have come through John the Baptist's doubts of yesterday (Matthew 11:2-6) and Jesus' difficult teaching of today to the words of Peter's confession of faith (John 6:60-69).

When times got tough, Jesus asked his closest disciples: "Do you also wish to go away?" To this, Peter replied: "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God." These become our words, too, when we sing, as we just have, "we will reclaim, we will proclaim the name".

The name of Jesus is not something we claim only once in our lives. We reclaim this name with each action we take, with each word we speak, and with each new day in which we awaken. This is the name of the Way we follow, the Truth we seek to live, and the Life into which we invite others.

I invite you now into an action of reclaiming the name of Jesus once again (in response to all that Lucy has shared with us/challenged us with). On the table the name of Jesus is spelled out in a colourful mosaic. As we are led in singing, you are invited to come forward and take a coloured stone, reclaiming the name of Jesus for yourself. The many colours remind us that there is a rich diversity of ways in which we are called to follow Jesus in our individual lives, and yet these paths of discipleship all have the same source, they all proclaim the same name.

Come, reclaim the name of Jesus!