



DENY THEMSELVES AND
TAKE UP THEIR CROSS
AND FOLLOW ME

Britannia United Church

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Meditation: “Love one another as I have loved you.”

Welcome: to Britannia United Church. Our **nursery** is always available to children three years of age and younger. It is at the end of the hall by the office. **Headsets** are available for those who need assisted hearing. Please speak to our sound technician. Please join in the reading if it is **bold** and *italic*.

We Gather in God’s Name

Introit: Come to My Heart (661, verse 1)

Come to my heart, Lord Jesus;
teach me to walk in your way.
Come to my heart, Lord Jesus;
come to my heart to day.
Give me the peace and joy
that only You can bring.
Come to my heart Lord Jesus;
give me a song to sing.

Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship:

God who is, God who has been,
God who will be;
faithful God, journeying God,
God with us;

**You are our God,
beyond us in mystery,
with us in struggle,
and guiding us onwards.**

Your faithfulness we praise.
Your name we call upon.
Your presence we worship.

We are here,

**on this holy ground, in this time,
offering our lives and ourselves to You.
We come open to Your Spirit,
and trusting in the love of Your Son, Jesus, Amen**

Hymn: I Have Called You By Your Name

1. I have called you by your name, you are mine;
I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.
I will not abandon you;
all my promises are true.
You are gifted, called, and chosen;
you are mine.
2. I will help you learn my name as you go;
read it written in my people, help them grow.
Pour the water in my name,
speak the word your soul can claim,
offer Jesus' body given long ago.
3. I know you will need my touch as you go;
feel it pulsing in creation's ebb and flow.
Like the woman reaching out,
choosing faith in spite of doubt,
hold the hem of Jesus' robe,
then let it go.
4. I have given you a name, it is mine;
I have given you my Spirit as a sign.
With my wonder in your soul,
make my wounded children whole;
go and tell my precious people
they are mine.

Opening Prayer:

In our moments of quiet reflection
and in moments of animated dialogue,
in times of celebration
and times of uncertainty and worry,

your Way, O God, merges with our path.

Lead us past the limits of our imagination.

Lead us past our worries and our fears.

Leads us past selfishness, and busy-ness.

Lead us to faith and life.

Grant us the wisdom to rise and journey with you.

And may our journey be a reflection of your love. Amen

Hymn: Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands (570)

Theme Presentation

We Hear God's Word

Music Offering: One Voice. Dianne, Barry and Rev. Jim

Scripture Reading: Matthew 16:21-28

Sung Response: (661, verse 2)

Fill me with love, Lord Jesus;

teach me to walk in your way

Fill me with love, Lord Jesus;

fill me with love today.

Give me the peace and joy

that only You can bring.

Come to my heart Lord Jesus;

give me a song to sing.

Message: "Loosing" Our Lives For Jesus (Romans 12:9-21)

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

God of Abraham, of Isaac, of Jacob,

Your faithfulness echoes down the centuries,

yet too often our commitment is much less certain.

Forgive us, Lord.

God of Moses, of Mary, of Peter,

Your call invites us to follow Your way of love,

yet too often we seek excuses and an easier path.

Forgive us, Lord.

God of Israel, of Palestine, of all nations,
Your concern is for justice and peace,
yet too often we ignore the cries of the oppressed.

Forgive us, Lord.

God of gardens, of wilderness, of all creation,
You have given us such wonders to care for,
yet too often we don't acknowledge the damage we do.

Forgive us, Lord.

God of justice, of peace, of love,
help us to know that You do forgive us,
setting us free from our past failings,
making us new,
and inviting us on a new stage in our journey with You.

For this assurance, we give you thanks. Amen

Hymn: Here I Am Lord (509)

We Respond to God

Prayers of Joy and Concern and The Lord's Prayer

Offertory

* **Doxology**: For the Gift of Creation (538)
For the gift of creation, the gift of your love,
and the gift of the Spirit by which we live,
we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.
May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts that we give.

* **Offertory Prayer**:

Generous God,
we pray that we would receive our gifts with open hands.
And we pray that our hands would stay open,
so that we may share our gifts as you intended.
Bless our lives, our offering and our praise.
May they always be a reflection of your grace. Amen

Hymn: Blessed Assurance (337)

* **Blessing and Assurance**:

In living for others,

we find life.

In loving others,

we find the love of God.

In seeking justice,

we find and create peace.

In finding Jesus,

we find the example of how we are to live.

Go, loving Jesus,

loving your neighbour as yourself,

and live into the way of Christ.

Know you are forgiven, loved, and restored. **Amen.**

* **Sung Response**: (661, verse 3)

Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus;

teach me to walk in your way.

Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus;

answer my prayer today.

Give me the peace and joy

that only You can bring.

Come to my heart Lord Jesus;

give me a song to sing.

Postlude