

Interactive Worship, 7th March, Theme 'Spring Clean'

Jessica Bullett, Tanya Cook, Irene Bostock

Service Sheet

Opening Prayer

God, whose temple is the whole creation, we praise you for the signs of spring: crocuses breaking through the cold earth, early morning sunshine through the clouds, days lengthening. We praise you that earth tells us of your presence. God, whose temple is found in community, we praise you for the people around us: our families and friends, the neighbours we'd like to know more, the strangers who surprise us with kindness. We praise you that we look at others and glimpse you. God, whose temple is written into our bodies, we praise you for our human bodies, and we praise you that our bodies are a temple of your Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Prayer from the Methodist Church Ministries: Vocations & Worship

Introduction

Today we are thinking about the passage in the bible where Jesus clears the temple.

StF 437 – When the music fades

Reading – John 2:13-22

Discussion

Consider the questions below :-Do we tend to get too attached to our local church? How?

- What opportunities has the pandemic given us as a church?
- How can we use these opportunities/lessons when churches are allowed to open up again?

If you would like to share your thoughts please write them down and email them to :- kmc.at.home.ng8@gmail.com

StF 251 Jesus Christ is Waiting

Reflection & Meditation

Reread the gospel from today and imagine yourself there in the story, at the end Jesus invites you to come and sit with him, he invites you to share whatever is on your heart, or in your mind. Take time to share this with Jesus and then listen for His response.'

Prayers – Spring cleaning

This morning we've heard about Jesus clearing or cleansing the Temple in Jerusalem and for our prayers for others today we are going to focus on Spring Cleaning. There is a response to join in with so when I say **Lord of Lent** please respond with **Renew our lives.**

Lord of Lent **Renew our lives.** So let us pray.

Lord of Lent come to your church and ask us your hard questions. Are we faithfully proclaiming your Gospel? Are we demonstrating in our life together the justice of your kingdom? Have we welcomed the weak and given the poor their rightful place? Come to your church to spring clean our way of life, our structures and our priorities. Point out to us the cobwebs, the dirt, the extravagance and the waste. Create in us a clean heart O God and renew a right spirit within us.

Lord of Lent **Renew our lives.** Lord of Lent **Renew our lives.**

Lord of Lent come to the nations and challenge our wrong doing. Sweep out our false pride our self seeking , deceit and corruption. May the kingdoms of our world seek justice, peace and the integrity of creation and may we look beyond immediate advantage and always seek the common good.

Lord of Lent **Renew our lives.**

Lord of Lent look with compassion on all whose minds are full of anxiety and bewilderment. We remember people who are lonely, imprisoned, despairing and humiliated. Clear away from them all unnecessary feelings of guilt, fear and self-hatred. Assure them that when you spring-clean our hearts and minds you know what you are going because you have been there before us and are to be trusted.

Lord of Lent **Renew our lives.**

Lord of Lent turn your healing love to those who are sick and in pain today. We have on our hearts some known to us, some known to the church and some known only through the news and we bring these people and situations to you now, O lord. Clear away from them those things that hurt, harm and hinder them. May your healing touch still have its ancient power. **Silence**

Lord of Lent **Renew our lives.**

For ourselves Lord, we pray that your spring-clean may be thorough and true this Lent. Show us those effortless sins we no longer even notice and help us to address the sins that sit on our shoulders each day. Give us both discipline in dealing with some faults and gentleness in dealing with others, and help us to know the difference. Create in us a clean heart, of God, and renew a right spirit within us.

Lord of Lent **Renew our lives.**

Renew our church, renew our world, renew our hearts, cleansing Lord Jesus.
Amen

Let us join our prayers together as we say the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples. **Our Father.....**

StF 409 Let us build a house

Benediction

May God bless you with anger at injustice,
oppression and exploitation of people~
so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace.

May God bless you with tears
to shed for those who suffer pain, rejection, hunger and war
so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them
and turn their pain to joy.

And may God bless you with enough foolishness
to believe that you can make a difference in the world
so that you can do what others claim cannot be done.

Amen