

## Teddy Bear Blessing

*No we didn't have a teddy bear's picnic, though we might have done. This was written for a service on the theme of Naboth's Vineyard where we were trying to explain why the Naboth's Vineyard was not just a piece of land or a business but was his inheritance, passed from generation to generation and therefore impossible to replace or value in monetary terms.*

*So the illustration we can up with was our favourite teddy or toy from when we were children and we invited adults and children alike to bring their special teddy or toy to share with us all why they were so special. We then offered to swap their favourite toy for a brand new very expensive designer teddy bear. Rather unsurprisingly, no one took us up on our offer!*

May the God who grounds us with the need to belong  
Bless us as we go out and welcome others.

May the Son who understands our stories of teddies and vineyards  
Bless us as we go out and listen to the stories of others.

May the Spirit who holds and comforts us in her embrace when we feel lost or lonely  
Bless us as we go out to embrace those who feel lost and lonely in our community.

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