

The Lion Sits With The Lamb

Jesus invites all to his table. We dream of a new heaven and a new earth, where the lion sits with the lamb. Imagine how awkward and uncomfortable and downright controversial that might be! Yet this is the radical call of the kin-dom to which we are called and this is the table around which we are asked to create community.

Welcome to the table

Come one

Come all

Come unto me, all you who are burdened
Come unto me, all you who are heavy-laden

Come

Take a seat

Come

Take any seat at this round table

Come

You are as important as me

The pauper sits with the king

The businessman shares with the unemployed

The religious bigot breaks bread with the prostitute

The doctor drinks from the same cup as the person with AIDS

Asylum seekers are welcome here – just as much as the one who has lived here for fifty years

The Lion lies down with the lamb

The paedophile sits next to the child

The mother next to the abortionist

Come

Take a seat

The Saviour of the World is here

Waiting for you

Jesus is here

Dipping bread with Judas

Come

Take a seat

Sit next to the one who broke bread with his betrayers, who gave his body to be broken

Sit next to the one who shared wine with despairing friends, whose blood poured out hope of re-created community.

You are welcome here

You are welcome to hope here

You are welcome to dream here

You are welcome to believe here

That

you can be

we can be
the world can be
better
new
reborn

[silence]

So we sit together
Uncomfortable
In each other's company
Not sure what to say
What to do
Thrown together
By chance
By life
By God

Let us remember together
The bread and the wine
The gift and the hope
And as we leave this place of sanctuary
We take with us our uncomfortable glimpse of new community.

The grace of creation
The love of self-giving
The companionship of comfort
Go with us
Wherever we go.

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