

## Searching...

*This opening prayer was inspired by the story of the lost coin but explores the idea of what we are searching for. It is the searching that keeps us on the journey, which keeps us dreaming and hoping...*

God who keeps searching  
for perfection  
We meet together this morning  
imperfect  
unready.

We could have waited until we were ready.  
Perhaps we should have waited until we were ready  
because quite frankly,  
to look at us,  
you wouldn't immediately think  
we were the body of Christ!

But we've been looking for so long  
We've been waiting over two thousand years  
and we're still not ready.

We've looked under ever stone.  
We've dug up every field.  
We've looked in the only possible place.  
And still we haven't found perfection.  
Still we're not ready.

So we thought we'd come to church anyway.  
Meet here anyway.  
And hope that that would be OK.

Because you did say  
that whenever two or three are gathered together  
in your name  
you would be present.

So be with us this morning.  
Accept us, with all our imperfections.

*[Silence]*

But don't let us get complacent.  
Remind us of our imperfections.  
Keep us searching for perfection.  
Keep us looking for your Shalom.  
Keep us journeying to your Promised Land

And go with us.

In Jesus' name...

