

# AND JESUS SAID 'NO'

Congregational version

## GATHERING

### Dance music

*(As people gather to be seated, fiddle music plays)*

## PROLOGUE & COMMISSION

### Prologue

### Commission

## Song: THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS UPON YOU

*Tune: 'BELINDA', Words & Music John L. Bell © 2019 WGRG, c/o Iona Community.*

1. *(Choir - Women)*

'The Kingdom of heaven is upon you,'

Jesus said, Jesus said.

'So, go, heal the sick, touch the lepers,  
raise the dead, raise the dead.

Drive out every demon from body and mind,  
and show how your Maker is utterly kind  
and do it for nothing, no fee and no charge:  
the Kingdom of God is at large.'

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2. *(Choir - Men)*

'The Kingdom of heaven is upon you,'  
Jesus said, Jesus said.

'Like sheep among wolves travel onwards  
as you're led, as you're led.

Be wiser than serpents, and gentle as doves,  
be mindful of all God created and loves.

Respect every welcome you're bound to receive  
and bless every place when you leave.'

3. *(Tune is hummed)*

4. *(ALL)*

'The Kingdom of heaven is upon you,'  
Jesus said, Jesus said.

'So go, heal the sick, touch the lepers,  
raise the dead, raise the dead.

Drive out every demon from body and mind,  
and show how your Maker is utterly kind  
and do it for nothing, no fee and no charge:  
the Kingdom of God is at large.'

## **ENCOUNTERS**

### **Musical intro**

### **At the well**

## Song: I ONCE LOVED A MAN

*Tune: 'I WILL WALK WITH MY LOVE', Irish traditional (altered). Words & Arrangement © 2019 WGRG, c/o Iona Community.*

### 1. (Solo)

I once loved a man  
 who was not of my clan,  
 whom I met on a hot summer's day.  
 And though not of my race,  
 but at home in my place,  
 he revealed more than I'd care to say.  
 For he knew what I'd been  
 and suffered and seen,  
 and he understood what in my life had gone wrong.  
 And though, at the first,  
 I feared for the worst,  
 now I know it's to him I belong.

### 2. (Solo)

I still love that man  
 who was not of my clan,  
 whom I met on that hot summer's day.  
 For he cherished my soul,  
 and made everything whole  
 which was broken or wasting away.  
 He was kind, he cajoled,  
 was funny and bold  
 in revealing how God never gave up on me.  
 Though he'd no fixed address,  
 still I gave him my yes  
 and will love him wherever he'll be.

**At the well** *(continued)*

**Music**

## 32 **CONVERSION**

### **Song: LET YOUR RESTLESS HEARTS BE STILL**

*Melody: 'THE LARK IN THE CLEAR AIR', Irish traditional. Words & arrangement © 1988, 1996 WGRG, c/o Iona Community.*

*Refrain: (Choir)*

KYRIE ELEISON, KYRIE ELEISON,  
KYRIE ELEISON, KYRIE ELEISON.

*(Choir hum under the verses)*

1. *(Solo)*

Let your restless hearts be still,  
let your troubled minds be rested;  
trust in God to lift your care  
and, in caring, trust in me.  
In God's house you have a place –  
were it otherwise,  
I would have told you –  
this I gladly go to prepare  
and make ready for you all.

2. *(Solo)*

Where I am and where I'll be,  
is where you shall live forever;  
and the way to where I go  
I have walked among you here.  
I'm the Way that never ends,  
I'm the Truth that never changes,  
I'm the Life that never dies  
but delights to love you all.

*Refrain: (Choir)*

KYRIE ELEISON, KYRIE ELEISON,  
KYRIE ELEISON, KYRIE ELEISON.

## **EPILOGUE**

### **Song: THE TRUTH THAT SETS US FREE**

*Words & Music © 2012 WGRG, c/o Iona Community.*

1. *(Choir) (ALL)*

When the wheel of fate is turning  
and the mills of God grind slow;  
when the past seems more attractive  
than the future we don't know;  
when our confidence is waning  
and we lack security,  
comes the timeless word of Jesus  
that the truth will set us free.

2. *(ALL)*

Is it war or economics,  
is it danger or deceit,  
is it unforeseen depression,  
fear of failure to compete?  
Have the times which once were changing  
led where no one wants to be?  
Shall we live by lies on offer  
or the truth that sets us free?

3. *(ALL)*

Do we fear when different voices  
have an awkward tale to tell,  
which reveals a new perspective  
on the things we know so well?  
Could it be that with their story  
comes new light that we may see  
both the limits of our knowledge  
and the truth that sets us free?

4. (ALL)

So, dear Jesus, make us willing  
to unmask convenient lies  
to protest wherever power  
closes conscience, ears and eyes;  
And release our expectations  
of your kingdom, yet to be,  
born in courage, joy and justice  
and the truth that sets us free.

## Closing responses

*Leader:* God of Abraham and Sarah,  
of Moses and Miriam,  
of Mary and Joseph,  
*ALL:* STAY WITH US NOW.

*Leader:* God of Joshua and Rahab,  
of Rizpah and David,  
of Dorcas and Paul,  
*ALL:* STAY WITH US NOW.

*Leader:* God of Simeon and Anna,  
of Martha and Thomas,  
God of the Eunuch at the Pool  
and the Woman at the Well,  
*ALL:* STAY WITH US NOW.

*Leader:* Stay with us and go with us,  
for we leave as we gathered  
in Jesus' name.  
*ALL:* AMEN.