

Romans 6:12-23 ; Matthew 10:40-42

Bearer of eternal life: we welcome you

As we open our door and breathe in sweet air - we welcome you. As the seasons come round again, and migratory birds and whales return, we receive the gift of creation – forever offered, forever surprising.

And by grace - through our debt of gratitude for all that sustains us - we shall find perfect freedom.

Bearer of eternal life: we welcome you

As we open our hearts to those in great need – we welcome you. We welcome victims of violence and discrimination; people displaced by disaster and conflict; communities and creatures threatened by exploitation. We pray for people battling the pandemic – those who do not have the space or accommodation to be safe, those threatened by the disregard of others. May all nations embrace a spirit of care and give support to their health-workers.

And by grace - in the sacrifice of giving and engaging - we shall find perfect freedom.

Bearer of eternal life: we welcome you

As we open our hearts to those who burn with divine love – we welcome you. We welcome the chance to explore your word day by day, week by week, season by season. We give thanks for the hearts, minds, and voices of this community and pray that, with the worldwide church, we may be obedient from the heart to the teaching entrusted to us.

And by grace - in the discipline of devotion - we shall find perfect freedom.

Bearer of eternal life: we welcome you

As we open our arms to one another – we welcome you. We pray for those who yearn for comfort but find it hard to open their door to others. We welcome into this circle of prayer all we know to be unwell, grieving, lost, confused, anxious, or exhausted.

And by grace - in the burden of caring - we shall find perfect freedom.

We give thanks for the works of praise, the sacrifices, devotion, and generosity of those who have gone before us, whose reward is to be held in your eternal embrace.

And as we welcome you in those you send, give each one of us the grace to go out, offering love, healing and peace to all.

Bearer of eternal life: we welcome you