

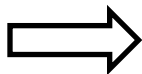
*PRAYER OF APPROACH AND CONFESSION - LENT 5*

Loving God,  
as we gather in this place,  
may we be found and may we find  
a place called home;  
a place where faith holds us  
and grace renews us,  
where forgiveness longs for us  
to be who You will us to be.

**May we find a place called home  
where we are accepted,  
where we are taken in, connected to You.  
A place called home where we belong and abide,  
and our souls fit  
and our questions are allowed  
and our anger is heard  
and our needs are recognised  
and our pain is held  
and our names are known.**

And may this be that place, O God,  
where Your place is our place  
and place isn't a building  
but a way of being together  
in relationship, held together, connected to You.

**Jesus Christ, the true vine,  
in our need we come to You in weakness,**



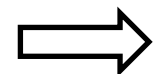
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*PRAYER OF APPROACH AND CONFESSION - LENT 5*

**needing Your strength,  
for we too easily become dry and lifeless  
without Your life-giving Spirit.**

Jesus Christ, True Vine,  
we have refused Your pruning hand in our lives.  
We want our way, not Yours;  
we cling to old ruts and are lured to new voices,  
avoiding, rejecting the truth found only in You,  
by abiding, remaining in You, close to You.

**Jesus Christ, the true vine,  
forgive us;  
prune us;  
graft us anew into You, abiding in You,  
and so to find Your life flowing in us  
and through us, branches that live in You.**

*A candle on the Lent Cross is extinguished.*



***Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy,  
Lord, have mercy on me.***

***Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy,***

***Lord, have mercy on me.*** Steve Merkel CCLI #224940

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