

Chosen and Sent



here am i.
send me.



Welcome

- ▶ **OUTLINE of the EVENING**
- ▶ Evening with Two themes **Chosen and Sent**
- ▶ Prayerful Reflection together
- ▶ Visualisation, Reflecting on Scripture, Gathering insights
- ▶ Leading to a fuller appreciation of our own Baptism
- ▶ **Third Part of the Evening:**
- ▶ Looking at our call as Missionary Disciples and our specific ministry to families for Baptism.



Listen to these words

► From Psalm 139

*For it was you
who created my being
Knit me together
in my mother's womb
I thank you
for the wonder of my being
For the wonders
of all your creation*



Now listen to these words



► From the prophet Jeremiah 1: 4 – 5

The Lord spoke these words to me:

***“Before I made you in the womb,
I chose you.***

***Before you were born,
I set you apart for a special work.***

I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

REFLECT

▶ What words or phrases stay with you?

▶ What feeling/s do these evoke in you?

▶ **A LISTENING EXERCISE in THREES**

- ▶ Now spend time listening to each person's response
- ▶ Listen rather than chat
- ▶ Give space for silence
- ▶ Don't interrupt sharing
- ▶ Be still and quiet when someone is sharing

Large Group Sharing

- ▶ What's emerging?
- ▶ What are you noticing?

God's Gaze

Often we seek God
in all the wrong places.
It would be better
if we didn't look at all,
if we would allow ourselves
to dare to believe
that it is God's delight
simply to gaze upon us;

that God, who birthed us
in a great burst of passion,
is ever standing by in waiting,
longing to catch our attention,
endlessly hoping
that we might be startled
into recognition
as we wander lazily by
the radiant primrose –
snuggled in the grass.



The Gaze of the beloved

*When God eases us out of God's heart into the earthly plane,
God searches for the place that is most like paradise,
and that is the mother's gaze.*

*In the mother's gaze,
she transparently mirrors God's infinite gaze of love,
looking into the eyes of the infant.
And when the infant looks into her eyes it is looking into God's eyes.
When God gazes at us and we gaze at God, both of us light up*



Here I am Lord

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard My people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin,
My hand will save.

I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them?
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am Lord, Is it I Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go Lord, if You lead me.
I will hold Your people in my heart.*



Listen to these words

From the prophet Isaiah 1:8

Then I heard the Lord's voice.

He said,

"Whom can I send?

Who will go for us?"

So I said,

"Here I am. Send me!"

here am i.
send me.



Now listen to these words



From the Gospel of John 20: 19 -21

It was the first day of the week.

That evening Jesus' followers were together.

The doors were locked, because they were afraid of the Jews. Then Jesus came and stood among them. He said, "Peace be with you!"

After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side.

His followers were very happy when they saw the Lord.

Then Jesus said again, "Peace be with you! As the Father sent me, I now send you."

Anointed



To bring hope

PROPHET



To give our life

PRIEST



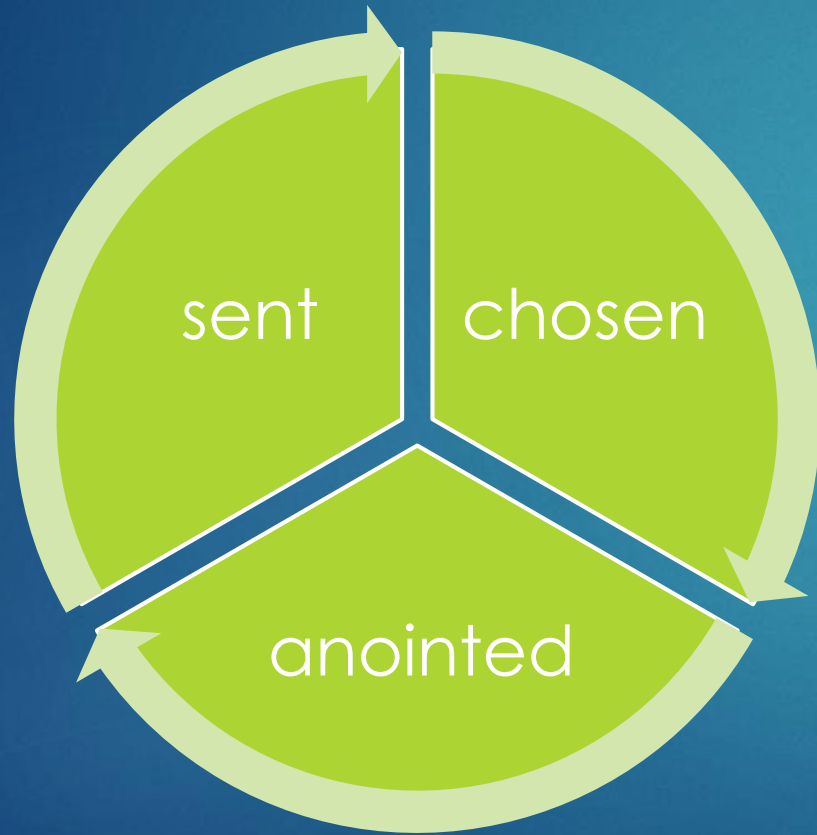
To serve and lead

KING

Our Call as Missionary Disciples



Reflect



- ▶ **Focus on the parents** you prepare for Baptism
- ▶ How does this connect with them?
- ▶ What's God saying to you now about your ministry?

Closing Prayer

*You are loved by God.
Each and every one of you:*

*cherished, adored, liked –
just as you are.*

*God loves you,
Jesus loves you,
the Spirit loves you:
Three-in-One.
No exceptions.*



***Follow Christ's footsteps,
walk into the wilderness –
and dance in the desert.***

***Beloved of God,
come on a journey.***