



Jazz vespers moment

First Christian Church – Bloomington
November 20, 2020 6:30 pm

November Series of Jazz Meditations on the Theme: Searching
Searching For Acceptance

Elena Escudero, singer and piano
Linda Abe, reader
Stefan Lenthe, bass
Tim Hansen, guitar

Gathering

Searching

Elena Escudero

God of wisdom, God of Vision
Who accepts us as your own
Though we struggle to find purpose
Loved by you we're not alone.

Words: Linda Abe, 2020 Music: Elena Escudero, 2020

Greeting and Scripture

Elena Escudero

There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free,
there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.
- Galatians 3:28

Instrumental Jazz Moment

Stefan Lenthe and Tim Hansen

Improvisation on Miles Davis' and Bill Evans' *Blue in Green*

Reading

Simplicity

Jorge Luis Borges (1899-1986)

It opens, the gate to the garden
with the docility of a page
that frequent devotion questions
and inside, my gaze
has no need to fix on objects
that already exist, exact, in memory.

I know the customs and souls
and the dialect of allusions
that every human gathering goes weaving.
I've no need to speak
nor claim false privilege;
they know me well who surround me here,
know well my afflictions and weakness.

This is to reach the highest thing,
that Heaven perhaps will grant us:
not admiration or victory
but simply to be accepted
as part of an undeniable Reality
Like stones and trees.

Jazz Meditation

'Tis the Gift to be Simple

SIMPLE GIFTS

'Tis the gift to be simple,
'tis the gift to be free,
'tis the gift to come down
where we ought to be,
and when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'twill be in the valley of love and delight.
When true simplicity is gained
to bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed,
to turn, turn, will be our delight
till by turning, turning we come round right.

- Shaker Song (18th Century)

Text and Tune: Joseph Brackett, Jr. (1797-1882)

Jazz Interpretation: Elena Escudero

Dismissal

Linda Abe

Closing Instrumental Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Elena Escudero

First Christian Jazz Vespers Staff

Helen Hempfling, Pastor
Linda Abe, Jazz Vespers Ministry
Elena Escudero, Director of Friday Jazz Vespers Moments
Jan Harrington, Director of Music
Jono Palmer, Video Editor

Acknowledgement

Simplicity: Jorges Luis Borges, translated from Spanish by A.S.Kline © 2008;
accessed <https://allpoetry.com/poem/14330580-Simplicity-by-Jorge-Luis-Borges>

'Tis the Gift to Be Simple: Shaker tune. Text and Tune: Joseph Brackett, Jr. (1797-1882); Public Domain

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to strictly follow guidelines regarding social distancing.*