

## Questions for Theological Reflection

**A. Recall an experience of worship, bible study, a conversation, a hymn, or an event.**

**Think**

**about the following questions.**

### **God**

How was God portrayed? e.g. transcendent - high and lifted up? immanent - close - up, personal?

In this experience, how is God understood to be relating to the world?

What characteristics might be attributed to God based on this experience?

### **Jesus**

How was Jesus portrayed e.g. gentle, meek and mild? courageous and prophetic? divine? human? Lord? Historic figure? living presence?

### **Church**

What concepts of church were upheld? - e.g. community of believers? place of sanctuary?

justiceseeking

people?

### **Humanity**

How was humanity described? e.g. born in/into sin? co-creators? pinnacle of God's creation? an integral part of creation?

### **Suffering**

How was suffering portrayed? e.g. an inevitable part of life? punishment? a sign of a special relationship with God? it just happens?

How do these portrayals relate to your own understanding? to Church tradition? to contemporary

expressions of faith as found in church statements/documents/actions?

**B. Other possible themes for theological reflection...**

**... in specific contexts or for general reflection/discussion**

### **Prayer**

What is the purpose of prayer? How/when/where/does prayer happen?

What is the connection between your understanding of prayer and your image of God?

### **Hope**

How do you understand hope theologically? What is the difference between hope and optimism?

How can/does hope find expression in the context of struggle and suffering?

### **Sin**

How do you understand sin - individually? corporately? in social/political/economic systems?

How

do power and vulnerability (individually and collectively) relate to sin?

### **Grace**

How do you understand grace? In what ways have you been transformed by grace? witnessed transformation by grace? How are you challenged by grace?