

# I. IN THE BEGINNING

when Jesus saw Mary  
weeping and the  
people who had  
come with her  
weeping, he was  
moved with  
indignation and

deeply distressed.  
'Where have you  
laid Lazarus?' he  
asked. They replied,  
'Come and see.'  
Jesus wept.

John 11:33-35

# Prayer

What did they think, Lord, those who watched you cry  
in front of women, in front of other men,  
for your dead friend, or your favourite city?

Did they admire your tenderness having seen your toughness?  
Were they disgusted by your tears and loss of self-control?  
Or were they drawn into your sorrow for the plight of the world  
and the pain of its people?

Help me to share the solidarity of your deep sorrow  
so that I can share the certainty of your deeper joy.



# O Christ, you wept

Traditionally, the association of Jesus with humanity is spoken of in terms of him being 'like us in all things, yet without sin'. What is sometimes forgotten is that he also shares with us a solidarity in grief. **When our hearts break for the loss of a friend, he knows what it feels like. He has been there too.**



# O CHRIST, YOU WEPT

**WORDS: John L. Bell and Graham Maule**

**TUNE: Palmer (JLB)**

O Christ, you wept when grief was raw,  
and felt for those who mourned a friend;  
come close to where we would not be  
and hold us, numbed by this life's end.

The well-loved voice is silent now  
and we have much we meant to say;  
collect our lost and wandering words  
and keep them till the endless day.

We try to hold what is not here  
and fear for what we do not know.  
Oh, take our hands in yours, good Lord,  
and free us to let our friend go.

In all our loneliness and doubt,  
beyond what we can realize,  
address us from your empty tomb  
and tell us that life never dies.