

There is no certainty if they follow  
There is no safety or security  
If they walk away from John – from what they know  
Maybe what they have become comfortable with

There is no assurance, no road map, or step by step  
Plan – place a and b together and wala you have a bookshelf

Yet the disciples see the man walking by  
And when John points him out and tells the tale  
This is the lamb of God.

They decide to go.  
To chase the Spirit, to give into the undertow,  
To walk the unmapped path with Jesus

This is an act of courage  
This is an act of boldness  
A foolish, beautiful, passionate, heart movement.

The story will continue  
As stories always do.  
And the disciples will know  
what it is like to be loved, comforted, healed, inspired, empowered  
And they will be  
Hated, berated, spat upon, condemned, and threatened with death  
They will see Jesus arrested, beaten, tortured, and left for a slow death  
A sign that says give up and submit  
Death and defeatism looming.

There is no certainty if they follow  
There is no safety or security  
Yet they say goodbye to John  
Follow Jesus  
Only to find out what amazing things will come.

And we  
We are in the place of discipleship  
In a time of uncertainty  
Of fear and anxiety, and “I don’t know”  
As the church shifts and culture has changed  
And it can be so hard

We’ve seen death – churches boarded up, sold off, torn down

Vacant pews  
Ministry reduced  
Survivalism in its all  
Eulogies of better days  
Tiredness, poverty, oversized buildings and undersized energy

The call of discipleship echoes once more  
As it always does  
Into our pain and uncertainty  
God is still with us  
The spirit still stirs our imaginations, our creativity, our passion and courage  
New ideas and expressions mix and mingle and mate with old ones  
Certainty gives into the beauty of relationship  
And the right way into the multi-colourspectacle  
of your way too  
Love and justice, and struggling for heavenly things on earth as in heaven  
Continues  
The church  
continues  
We  
continue  
God  
continues

People still laugh, smile, cry, love,  
And worship in the midst of it all  
In the midst of community

The church still celebrates, struggles, and discerns  
What next?  
And the spirit sings to us  
Christ calls to us,  
Our hearts pull us forward  
When we fear to move.

The call of discipleship  
    Love wins big in the end  
        I am with you  
            I will make you fishers of people  
                Your faith has made you whole  
                    Don't be afraid  
                        The dominion of God is here and is coming  
                            I am with you until the end of ages.

The call of discipleship in you and in me.

So Come  
let us be part of amazing things  
For we are part of a holy story.