



John Bell from the Iona Community will be coming to Beckford Church on Saturday 1st April 2017 between 2 and 5pm, leading a seminar entitled ; “Looking for the larger Christ.”

John L. Bell was born in, resides in and belongs to Scotland. He is a Church of Scotland Minister. He is well known for his music and worship resources, produced with his colleagues as part of the Wild Goose Resource Group within the Iona Community. He is also a well known preacher, workshop leader and broadcaster in Britain and beyond, but his primary concern is the renewal of congregational worship at the grassroots level.

He has a deep interest in music from non-European cultures and a passion for ‘the song of the Assembly’, giving voice to all who gather in Christian worship. With his colleagues, John has produced many collections of songs and a wide range of liturgical material. He has also authored several collections of sermons and meditations. His work is made available in North America through the liturgical publisher GIA, or visit the website of the Iona Community. He regularly appears on ‘Thought for the Day’ on Radio 4’s ‘Today Programme.’ John is a radical and imaginative thinker, who enables people to examine their Christian faith with a fresh perspective.

Writing about the theme for his seminar John writes. *“The adjectives most commonly used regarding Jesus are 'kind and gentle'; the predominant images of him in the song and physical artwork of the church are mostly passive; and there is limited expectation that he might have an interest in the issues of the day apart from those associated with charitable causes. So is he the Lord of All or an emasculated saviour? This will be the focus of the seminar which will draw on scripture, poetry and song, all in search of a larger Christ.”*

We are expecting a healthy interest in this seminar and we have only limited seating available in the Church. For the month of October we will be giving priority booking to members of the Bredon Hill Group; but from November they will be available more widely. Tickets will be £15 and available from Beckford Stores. If you would like them sent please email Matthew with how many you want and the address to which they should be sent, he will then let you know how to make payment.