

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**  
**Prepared by the WDP of Slovenia**

**March 1st, 2019**

**“Come – Everything Is Ready”**

**Artist statement and biography**

Description of the Painting



I wanted to present two topics: the country of Slovenia and the main biblical story of the worship service. On the top of the picture one can see the movement of women in the Slovenian national traditional costumes; covered with a lace cap, mob cap, and scarf.

The semicircular ornament with Slovenian folk embroidery represents a plate or a table with our best known national dish cake - *potica*. Grapes are from vineyards from different Slovenian wine producing regions. As a souvenir and an expression of love, the table is decorated with a licitar heart made with the honey of native Carniola bees, and a Slovenian flower carnation.

Partly under the table, one can see the children from the margins of the society. They heard the invitation to the feast. A homeless woman carries a child in her arms, a blind woman with arms in front already preparing for a step, a deaf person responds by changing the position of his head, a spastic girl's involuntary movements shows her joyous acceptance of the invitation to the banquet.

I used the colors of Slovenian folk embroidery, red and white. The green background color emphasizes the green Slovenia, fields and forests. The warm colors of children express the joy of heartfelt invitation.

The painter Rezka Arnuš



Rezka Arnuš was born in 1953 in Božakovo near Metlika, Slovenia, in a farmer's family with 7 children. She worked hard to finish her secondary school and the college for physiotherapists. Due to health problems with her sight, Rezka Arnuš retired at 46 and started to paint. She creates and resides with her family in Dolenjske Toplice. She is married, has 2 sons and 3 grandchildren. She likes gardening, cycling in tandem with her husband, cooking, listening to books, she sings in a choir and runs a women's home-based gym. She got to know WDP in 2017 upon an invitation to participate in the art workshop for WDP 2019.

As a visually impaired amateur artist she has been creating works of art for the past 18 years. Her eyes are limited just to 5% of a normal sight when there is enough light. She has learnt to paint under the guidance of several mentors, the most influential being the academic painter Jože Kumer. She has been a member of Mavrica Novo mesto Fine Artists Society, Artoteka Bela Krajina Črnomelj Society of Arts and Culture, and the fine arts section of Dolenjske Toplice Society of Arts and Culture.

Her favorite motifs are landscapes, still life, the images of White Carniola, whereas lately she has been creating figurines, nudes, and abstract paintings. Her special style combines national traditional figures and symbols with inner feelings and sensations. She is a regular participant in artists' colonies and painting ex-tempores. Rezka's works, which have earned her many awards and prizes, have been displayed within 17 solo and over 200 group exhibitions in Slovenia and abroad.