

### Lead Me to Hope

Lead me to hope, oh lead me to hope  
Lead me to hope I pray  
So I can live and work for your day  
Lead me to hope I pray.  
When I am numb with my despair  
When I'm too numb to care  
Lead me to hope, oh lead me to hope  
Lead me to hope I pray.

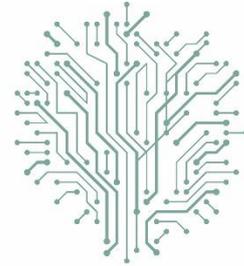
Lead me to love, oh lead me to love  
Lead me to love I pray  
So I can I can live and work for your day  
Lead me to love I pray.  
When I am cold within myself  
When I'm too cold to care  
Lead me to love, oh lead me to love  
Lead me to love I pray.

Lead me to faith, oh lead me to faith  
Lead me to faith I pray  
So I can I can live and work for your day  
Lead me to faith I pray.  
When I am lost in the maze of time  
When I'm too tired to care  
Lead me to faith, oh lead me to faith  
Lead me to faith I pray

Lead us to peace, oh lead us to peace  
Lead us to peace we pray  
So we can live, not fear for the day  
Lead us to peace we pray.  
When we are unjust, too scared to trust  
As we prepare for war  
Lead us to peace, oh lead us to peace  
Lead us to peace we pray.  
Lead us to peace we pray.  
Lead us to hope we pray.

Words and music by Peter Kearney

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2026 Saltbush Community Minister



# SALTBUSH

UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

## Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Matthew 21:1-11  
Palm Sunday

### Welcome

We acknowledge the First Nation's people of the lands we gather today, who have cared for this country since time immemorial. To the (name of the First's Nations country) we pay our respects to elders past, present and emerging.

We come to hear the Good News, to embody the love of God in Christ as we share our lives with others.

### Lighting of Christ Candle

God's truth is revealed in Jesus Christ the light of the world. May the light shine for the hope of the world.

### Responses & Gathering Prayer

God of Eternal Love,  
You have called us to the planet to be a people of love, a people of justice and compassion, a people who have Jesus to show us the Way.  
You have called us to stand alongside the disadvantaged, speak out for the voiceless, sit with the lost and cry with the lonely and bereaved.  
You have called us to wave our palm branches and placards against corrupted powers that choose to dominate and control.  
You call us to share the passion of Christ! Hosanna!  
Amen.

### Song

[Lead me to Hope](https://peterkearney.bandcamp.com/track/59-lead-me-to-hope) by Peter Kearney  
<https://peterkearney.bandcamp.com/track/59-lead-me-to-hope>

## Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you.

### And also with you.

You are invited to turn to those around you and offer them a word of greeting and peace.

## The Word around the Bush

Matthew 21:1-11

21When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup>saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." <sup>4</sup>This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, <sup>5</sup>"Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey." <sup>6</sup>The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; <sup>7</sup>they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. <sup>8</sup>A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup>The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" <sup>10</sup>When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" <sup>11</sup>The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

## The Message

From your Scattered Community Minister or another leader within your gathering.

## Questions for conversation

- I wonder what your first thoughts were when you heard the word today. How do you understand the Kingdom/Reign of God?
- With the constantly changing political landscape in the world today, where do you see the role of the church?

## Silence in Two Ways

Spend some time in silence sitting still (suggested 5 minutes). Close your eyes lightly. Sit relaxed but alert.

## Prayers for Others

Merciful Creator, as we wave our palm branches and follow you, we pray that we learn to have the passion of Christ. May we stand alongside Jesus proclaiming the reign of God: a reign of peace, mercy, justice, love and reconciliation.

(pause)

For those who are powerless and weighed down by the injustices they experience each day as they are judged by race, class and religion. **May they encounter your love and acceptance.**

(pause)

For the planet and all living things that fight for survival against the insatiable plunder of human excess. **May we work for the restoration of creation.**

(pause)

We know you are with those who are experiencing difficult days in our communities, may we be free to share our lives with them also. **May they know your mercy, compassion and freedom.**

(pause)

In this time of silence we bring you our prayers.

(pause)

In Christ, Amen.

## Song for Reflection:

[Pilgrims Together](#) by John Coleman

<https://johncoleman.bandcamp.com/track/pilgrims-together>

## Closing Responses & Blessing

Go from here, journey with the One who walks with you and calls you to a deeper truth.

Go with open hearts and minds, knowing the Spirit of God is with you.

And may you be voices of wisdom, your actions standing for justice and peace.

In Christ's name!

Bless us and the people we meet along the way  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen**