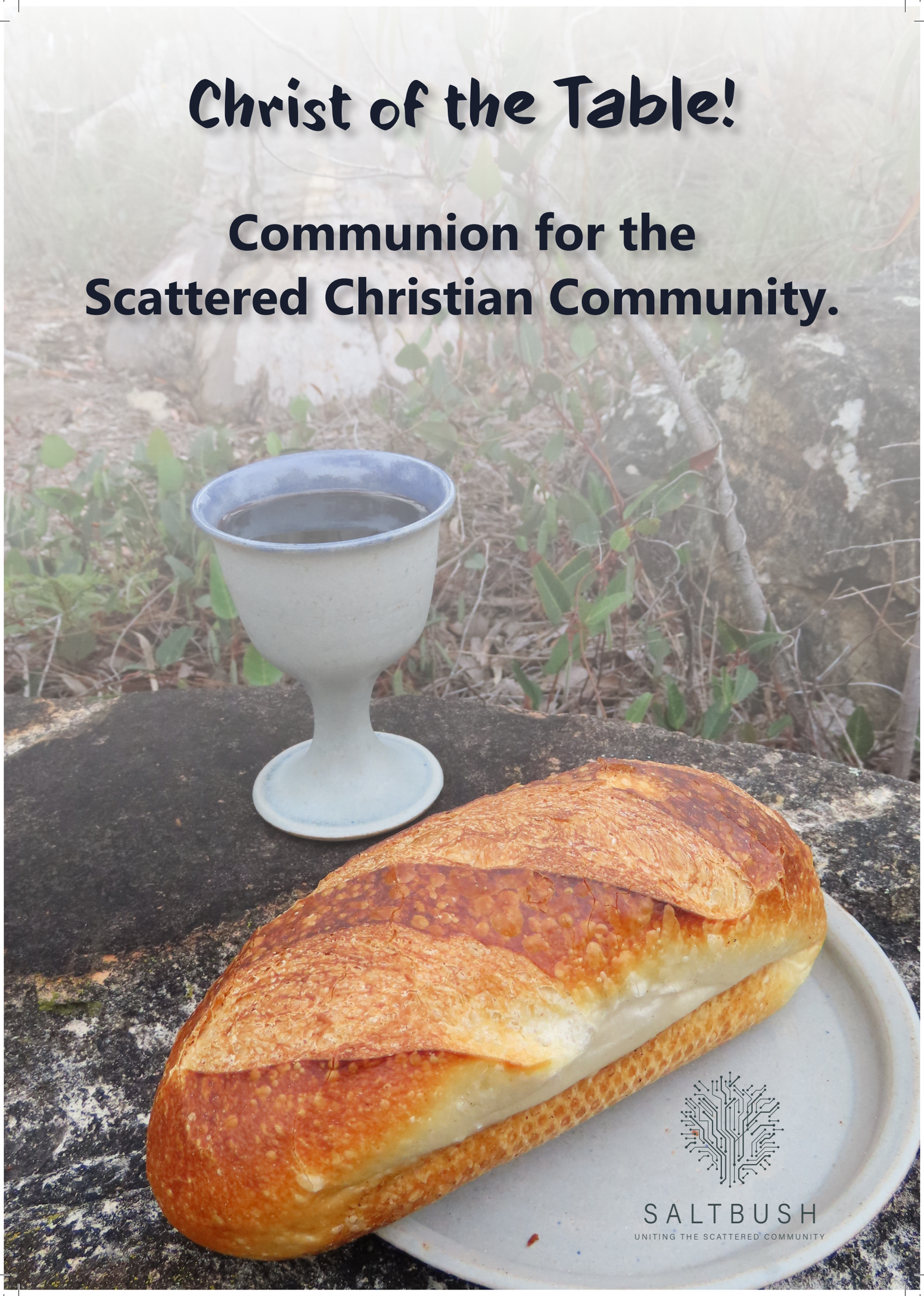
Christ of the Table!

Communion for the Scattered Christian Community.



SALTBUSH

UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

[The Presider reads those sections marked with black ●, but before you begin others may be invited to each read a particular colour – four people ● ● ● ●]

Welcome to the Table

● Jesus is the Christ of the table.

There he sat and ate with friends and religious leaders, sinners and self-righteous alike.

At the table he ate with tax collectors and there he reclined when a woman came in and poured perfume onto his feet.

● At the table he sat with his mother for the wedding at Cana and in the temple he overturned the tables in anger.

At the table he sat with his few followers, the doubters, the betrayer, the brash and the silent.

● At the table he broke some bread and poured out the wine.

And here, among friends or strangers,
gathered around this simple table,
Jesus welcomes you; The Christ of the table welcomes each and all of us.

● What are the stories of the table from your own lives?
[a simple time of sharing]

Remembering the Table Story

● At the table, on that night, Jesus took bread;
And when he had blessed it
He broke it and said:

"Take this and eat it, It is my body.
It is given for you
Do this to remember me."
[silence]

Then later during the meal;
He poured out a cup of wine
And when he had given thanks, he said:

"In this cup is the new relationship with God made possible because of my death.
Take this, all of you,
To remember me."
[silence]

Receiving Christ of the Table

● As Jesus prayed and said a blessing at the table, so let us pray.

● We give thanks eternal God,
For your abiding ways down throughout the ages.

For the mystery of creation; life, love and hope.

For the way of Christ, who sits at our tables of everyday life.

For the ongoing dwelling of the Holy Spirit, within and around.

● God beyond holiness
As we do what Jesus did in an upstairs room
Let your Spirit move among us
To settle on this bread and this wine
That they may be for us
The body and blood of Christ.

And let the same Spirit stir us, our souls and lives
So that as we share this sacrament,
We may recognise our Lord amongst us at this table, that he may be in us, and we in him. **Amen**.

The bread we break is a sharing in the broken body of Christ.

The cup we take is a sharing in the shed blood of Christ

These are the gifts of God for us, the people of God.
[The Bread and Wine is distributed]

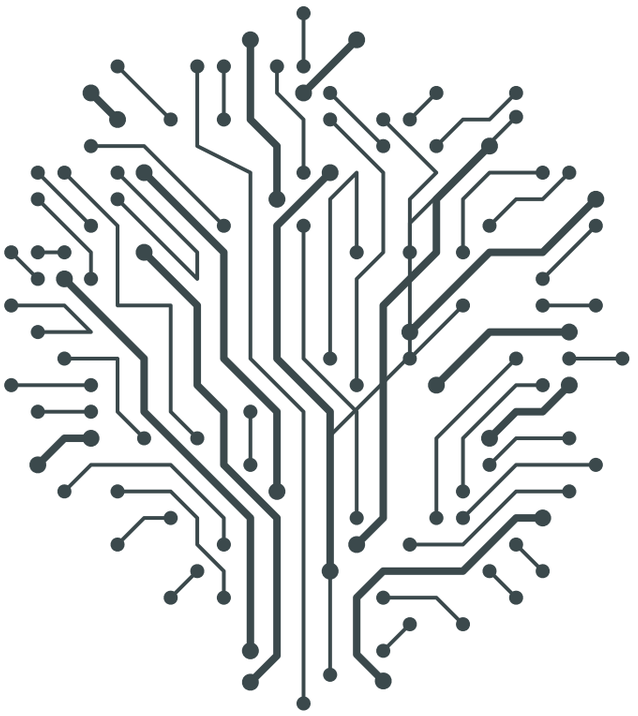
Sending as People of the Table

● Let us pray

In gratitude, for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you.

Take us out, as people of the table,
To live as changed people
Because we have shared the Living Bread
And cannot remain the same.

● Bless us and the people we meet along the way.
God of eternity,
Christ of the table,
Spirit as the wind. **Amen.**



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