

## WHEN I PRAY

When I pray I talk with my God like a friend.  
(When I pray I talk with my God like a friend).  
Every day I talk with my God like a friend.  
(Every day I talk with my God like a friend).  
Of my life and plans, my troubles and fears,  
Of my joys and hopes and I know God hears.  
Like a friend who's always near.

When I pray I go to the room of my heart.  
(When I pray I go to the room of my heart).  
Every day I go to the room of my heart.  
(Every day I go to the room of my heart).  
When I wake in the morning or late at night,  
In the deepest cave or the highest height  
When I'm there I talk with you.

And when I am lonely  
When the world is stony I talk  
I talk with you, with you my dear God.

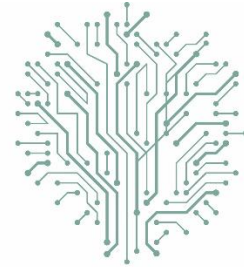
When I pray I'm glad for the gifts of the Earth.  
(When I pray I'm glad for the gifts of the Earth).  
Every day I'm glad for the gifts of the Earth.  
(Every day I'm glad for the gifts of the Earth).  
For the seas and rivers for the hills and plains,  
For the fruit and fish and the fields of grain.  
What a feast for me and you.

And when I am lonely  
When the world is stony I talk  
I talk with you, with you my dear God.

When I pray I talk with my God like a friend.  
Mmm Mmm mm mm

By Peter Kearney

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2025 Saltbush Community Minister



SALTBUSH  
UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

## Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Luke 19:1-10  
Salvation for All

### Welcome and Acknowledgment

We come to hear the Good News, to embody the love of God in Christ as we share our lives with others. We acknowledge the First Nations people of the (insert name) nation and pay our respects to elders throughout the ages and those who continue the traditions, their history and keep their story.

### Lighting of Christ Candle

### Responses & Gathering Prayer

Come, let us meditate on the word of God.  
**For God's word holds wisdom and truth.**  
Come let us allow the Spirit to speak into our lives  
**For God's Spirit is active and present.**  
Come let us walk the ways of Christ.  
**For it is in Jesus that we find our way.**  
(pause for a moments silent reflection)

Come let us pray.  
Come, Spirit of God, fill this time of worship with the fullness of your presence.  
Open our ears to hear your word  
And our eyes to see your works.  
May we taste the sweetness of your mercy.  
May we experience your presence in all our senses as we open our hearts to the gentle touch of your compassion. Amen.

### Song:

[When I Pray](https://peterkearney.bandcamp.com/track/99-when-i-pray) by Peter Kearney  
<https://peterkearney.bandcamp.com/track/99-when-i-pray>

## 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

**Luke 19:1-10**

19He entered Jericho and was passing through it. <sup>2</sup>A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. <sup>3</sup>He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. <sup>4</sup>So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. <sup>5</sup>When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today." <sup>6</sup>So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. <sup>7</sup>All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." <sup>8</sup>Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." <sup>9</sup>Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. <sup>10</sup>For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

## The Message

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

## Questions for conversation

- How do you experience God's salvation in your life?
- Who in the life of your community is excluded? Why?
- What one action can you or your church take in response to the Word today?

## Silence in Two Ways

Spend some time in silence sitting still. If your mind begins to fill with too many concerns, picture them drifting away.

## Prayers for Others and Creation

Eternal Presence, Constant Love, may we know that your desire is for us to know you in our lives. That we would know the vastness of your love, mercy and compassion. That we could share the immensity of your grace with others. That we could stand as those who embody the life we have been called to in Christ.

And we bring to our prayer at this time.

For creation.

For the world.

For this country

For the community

For your Church

For ourselves.

## Song for Reflection:

[Living Icon](#) by Malcolm Gordon

<https://malcolmgordon.bandcamp.com/album/living-icon-single>

## Closing Responses & Blessing

Embody the rule of love that is written in your heart, offering the sweetness of God's mercy to all you meet.

The grace of God, the love of Christ and the presence of the Spirit be with us all.

(some prayers have been adapted from Words for Worship: MediaCom)