

For others we have heard about throughout our world ...

*Silence*

For other people we know and are close to ...

*Silence*

For our church and our wider community ...

*Silence*

For ourselves ...

*Silence*

## Closing Responses & Blessing

Go in joy for Jesus walks between us,  
Go in humble faith, in all our humanness, for we  
will be led by the Spirit.

And may the whole creation bear witness to its  
God, the earth be a carpet of green for the  
carrying of the gospel and the sun warm every  
cold place as the sacred life of the Spirit dreams its  
dreams for all creation.

**Bless us and the people we meet along the way.**

**Father,**

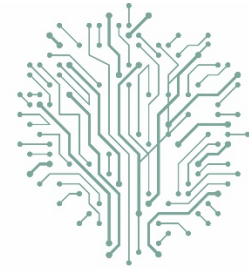
**Son**

**and Holy Spirit.**

**Amen.**

Let us go with hearts of joy,  
To the place of God's dwelling,  
Let us worship our God with songs of thanks and  
praise.

*Acknowledgment: Monica Brown & Emmaus Productions  
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SALTBUSH

UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

## Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Matthew 21: 1-11  
Palm Sunday  
Lent 6

### Welcome

An opportunity to welcome people to the gathering

### Responses & Gathering Prayer

The stones cry out in joy,  
the trees wave their branches in delight,  
the myriad birds burst forth into song  
in the city and the countryside.

For the Christ comes riding among the people,  
bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh:

**God who chooses to share our life,  
we worship you!**

**Amen.**

### Music for Reflection

Suggested song: [Hearts of Joy](#)

*Acknowledgment: Monica Brown & Emmaus Productions  
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<http://au.emmausproductions.com/au-music/au-MusicAlbum-HolyGround.html>

### Passing the 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

When 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 you have heard and thought from the Word today?
- I wonder what you heard in the Word for our church?
- 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 (suggested 5 minutes). Close your eyes lightly. Sit relaxed but alert.

- You may like to say the prayer phrase “Mar-an-ath-a” (which means come Lord). Say this as four

syllables. Do not try to think or imagine anything. If thoughts or distractions come simply return to saying the word.

- Or you may like “sitting with God” — a silent time in which we focus all our mind, heart and soul on the presence of God without trying to create it. Simply be still and open to God.

## Prayers for Others

Our Father,  
who is in us here on earth,  
holy is your name  
in the hungry who share their bread  
and their song.

Your Kingdom come,  
which is a generous land  
which flows with milk and honey.

Let us do your will,  
standing up when all are sitting down,  
and rising our voice when all are silent.

You are giving us our daily bread  
in the song of the bird  
and the miracle of the (wheat).

Forgive us  
for keeping silent in the face of injustice;  
and for burying our dreams  
for not sharing bread and wine,  
love and the land among us, now.

Don't let us fall into the temptation  
of shutting the door through fear;  
of resigning ourselves to hunger and injustice;  
of taking up the same arms as the enemy.  
But deliver us from evil.

Give us the perseverance and solidarity  
to look for love,  
even if the path has not yet been trodden,  
even if we fall;  
so we shall have known your kingdom  
which is being built for ever and ever.

(Central American Lord's Prayer. Page 63 – Bread for Tomorrow: 2004. Ed. Janet Morley)

In our simple faith, we bring our prayers for your creation and for the people of this world.

- O Christ we open ourselves in prayer for:  
[\[Silence for personal prayer or invite others to open prayer in between each\]](#)

Your creation ...

[Silence](#)