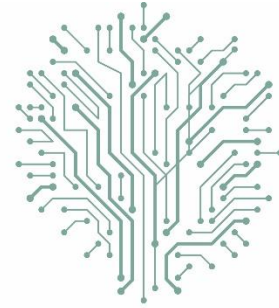


For other people we know and are close to ...
Silence

For our church and our wider community ...
Silence

For ourselves ...
Silence



SALTBUSH
UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Closing Responses & Blessing

The blessing of God be upon each of us to draw us into faith.

The blessing of Christ be upon each of us to challenge and call us along the way.

The blessing of Spirit be upon each of us to send us out into our community and wider world.

Bless us and the people we meet along the way.

**Father,
Son
and Holy Spirit.**

Amen.

Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

John 14: 1-14
Easter 5

Welcome

An opportunity to welcome people to the gathering

Responses & Gathering Prayer

Lord,
satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
So that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
[Ps. 90:14]

Draw us in to your presence Lord and open to us
once more the depth of your being.

Draw us in to your steadfast love, so that we may
again know the deeper mystery of life.

Draw us in to your way, so that we may ponder
Christ and his word along the way, and hear anew
his voice in our own lives.

**Draw us in Lord, as we gather here. Dwell
amongst your people across the lands and call us
out into faith and life. We pray. Amen.**

Music for Reflection

Suggested Song: [Come One, Come All](#)

Malcolm Gordon © 2013 *Into the Deep*,

<https://malcolmgordon.bandcamp.com/track/come-one-come-all>

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

John 14:1-14

14 “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. 2 In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. 4 And you know the way to the place where I am going.” 5 Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” 6 Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. 7 If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

8 Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” 9 Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? 10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. 11 Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. 12 Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. 13 I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

The Message

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

<https://saltbushcommunity.uca.org.au/the-word-around-the-bush/>

Questions for conversation

- I wonder what you have heard and thought from the Word today? How is satisfaction part of your faith?
- Are we satisfied as the 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

Eternal God,
where there is hope, you are there.
Where there is compassion and the desire for wholeness, you are there.
Where there is the struggle for peace, you are there.
Where the hungry are fed, and the poor empowered, you are there.
Where there is delight in the trees of the land, or the depths of the seas, you are there.
Wherever love is announced, you are there.

In you is such longing for your creation, and for humanity, and we thank you for that presence of you, in Spirit, in people, renewing, calling, and saving.

In that knowledge, and 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

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

Silence