

Closing Responses & Blessing

God's steadfast love is etched into our souls.
May we carry it with us always.

Whether welcoming the stranger,
whether risking all we have,
whether facing the cross,
whether wrestling with God's call,
whether freeing ourselves from our past,
God is our constant companion on this journey. 1.

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

In you we live:

1. As in times gone past we tread the ancient pathway
Leading to the eternal one
With a multitude we join in worship
Voices raised in joyful song

In you we live and have our being
Hallelujah, hallelu!
We breathe and move and have our being
Hallelu---jah, hallelu!

2. Through seasons of our lives we walk with faithful
rhythm
Hearts and hopes set on God
In the shadow lands and in the morning
We're drawn towards the glorious son!

Chorus

3. In the days to come we'll walk the path before us
When it's clear and smooth or harsh and rough
And his mighty hands will lead and guide us
Scarred hands that prove his sacred love

Chorus

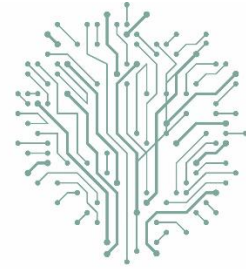
Emmanuel, God with us (4x)

Chorus

*[Songs for the Road](#). 2014 Written by Sue Mephram. Performed by
Keren Oey and the Flagstaff Community*

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Saltbush Community Ministers

1. Beu, B. J., and Mary Scifres. 2019. The Abingdon Worship. The Abingdon Worship. Nashville: Abingdon Pres



SALTBUSH
UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Matthew 10: 40-42
Whoever Welcomes Me

Welcome

An opportunity to welcome people to the gathering

Responses & Gathering Prayer

Come, you are welcome in the name of the one
who sent the risen Christ.

Come, you are welcome to receive the reward of
righteous people who welcome others.

Come, you who trust in the steadfast love of the
Lord and rejoice in your salvation.

Let us sing to the God who welcomes one and all
and bids us welcome others too.

Amen.

Music for Reflection

Suggested song: [Canticle of Daniel](#)

Acknowledgment: ©2001. Don Stewart. All Together
Whatever. Open book Publishers

<https://www.shopacr.com.au/P005177/All+Together+Whatever+3+CD+set/pd.php>

Rev Rob Hanks 2016 YouTube – NCYC Band 1999
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rWzqPov0k3E>

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 10: 40-42

⁴⁰ “Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹ Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; ⁴² and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

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

Eternal Presence, Creator God, dwell deeply within us that we would know your truth, your love, your hope, your reign in our lives. That our own lives reflect you and your hopes; refreshing relationships, communities and your creation.

As you dwell within us Holy Presence may we know the sacred life you call us to, that we are made in your image and we acknowledge your image in all we meet.

At this time we bring you our prayers.

- 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

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

Silence

For our church and our wider community ...

Silence

For ourselves ...

Silence

Music for Reflection

Suggested song: [In you we live](#)

Acknowledgment: [Songs for the Road](#). 2014 Written by Sue Mephram. Performed by Keren Oey and the Flagstaff Community Choir.

<https://malcolmgordon.bandcamp.com/track/in-you-we-live-keren-oey?token=EC-34W71632805920837>