ALL THE WORLD IS SACRED
All the world is sacred in my eye.
All the world is sacred in my eye.
All the world is good.
This world is holy.
This world is wholly hallelujah
Surely all the world is sacred in my eye.

Every tree, God's beauty dressed in green.
In the creeks and mountains God is seen.
In the grey gum gully
In seagulls soaring, thunder roaring
Surely all the world is sacred in my eye.

God creates all life, this world is good.
Earth is in our care and care we should.
Earth is in our care.
She is our Mother,
So be careful sister brother,
Surely all the world is sacred in my eye.

If we can just hear with hearts amazed Every stone is singing songs of praise.

This world is holy.

This world is wholly hallelujah

Surely all the world is sacred in my eye.

All the world is sacred in my eye.
All the world is sacred in my eye.
All the world is good.
This world is holy.
This world is wholly hallelujah
Surely all the world is sacred in my eye.

Words and music by Peter Kearney

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# Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

## Matthew 22:15-22 Render to Caesar?

### Welcome

An opportunity to welcome people to the gathering

Centring words: God is neither shocked or disturbed by our imperfections. God, who is already familiar with our ways, has called us to this place.

### Responses & Gathering Prayer

Eternal Creator, we see your beauty and love throughout all of creation. We feel your presence in the love we share with others, in the gentle breeze, in your words from Scripture and in the still small voice of the Spirit. With Jesus we journey, as he calls us to be bearers of your image, providers of your justice and co-creators of all you have breathed into being. May we be authentic in our faith, embodying the Christ we serve. In whose name we pray, Amen.

### Music for Reflection

The Deer's Cry by Shaun Davey https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GGHWiAGpI P0

### 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 22:15-22

<sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. <sup>16</sup>So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. <sup>17</sup>Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" 18 But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? 19Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. <sup>20</sup>Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" <sup>21</sup>They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." <sup>22</sup>When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

### 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-atha" (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 purposes, your will; 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

### Song

<u>All the World is Sacred</u> by Peter Kearney https://peterkearney.bandcamp.com/track/all-the-world-is-sacred

### Closing Responses & Blessing

Go in faith as images of the Living God! Imagine greater, speak and act as people of the Kingdom of God.

And may God, the eternal loving presence walk alongside you. God in Christ be your constant guide. The Holy Spirt nurture, encourage and lead you to truth.

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