

We pray for the communities in which we live:  
For families that love and forgiveness be found;  
for workplaces where the contribution of all is valued;  
for a society where the weak and the vulnerable are cared for and cherished.

Speak to us in the words of love and pour out your spirit on us, that our hearts may burn with love for you and for each other  
Holy Spirit come, and in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who suffer:  
For comfort for all who are lonely and sad; for relief for all in pain or distress; for strength for all who care for the sick and the dying  
Speak to us in the words of hope and pour out your spirit on us, that we may know your comfort and bring your healing touch to all in need of consolation  
Holy Spirit come, and in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

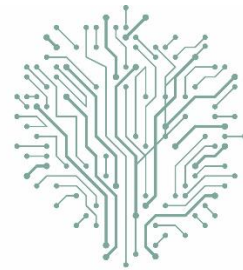
Spirit of the living God, visit us again as at the day of Pentecost;  
Speak to each of us in our own language and pour out your spirit on us, that we may understand your word, proclaim your works and live by the power of your Spirit.  
Holy Spirit come, and in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer. 1.**  
**Amen.**

## Closing Responses & Blessing

Inspired by dreams and visions,  
let the Spirit's wind drive us out into the world to live the way of the risen Christ.

Proclaiming the Good News of a risen Saviour in the languages of the people we meet.

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



SALTBUSH  
UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

## Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Acts 2: 1-21  
Pentecost

### Welcome

[An opportunity to welcome people to the gathering](#)

### Responses & Gathering Prayer

Pour out your Spirit on your Sons and Daughters across this land God of Spirit and truth, that we might see visions and dream.  
Dreams of your kingdom come here on earth as it is in heaven.

Call to us now that we might hear this good news in our own language and celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Come Holy Spirit, come.  
**Amen.**

### Music for Reflection

Suggested song: [Come now breath of life](#)  
from [Songs for the Saints](#), released May 30, 2016  
Music and lyrics by Malcolm Gordon  
<https://malcolmgordon.bandcamp.com/track/come-now-breath-of-life>

### 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

Acts 2: 1-21

## The Coming of the Holy Spirit

2 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup> Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup> Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" <sup>8</sup> And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup> Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." <sup>12</sup> All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup> But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

## Peter Addresses the Crowd

<sup>14</sup> But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup> Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup> No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup> 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup> Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

<sup>19</sup> And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

<sup>20</sup> The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

<sup>21</sup> Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

# 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

Spirit of the Living God, come hear us and intercede for us.

We pray for the world:

for a responsible caring for your creation;  
for a just sharing of the world's resources;  
for a spirit of peace between nations,

Speak to us in the words of justice and pour out your spirit on us, that we may be filled with a passion for justice and peace.

Holy Spirit come, and in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

We pray for your church:

For a renewal of faith and commitment;  
for power to proclaim your gospel;  
for unity between Christians

Speak to us in the words of salvation and pour out your spirit on us, that we may bear witness to your mighty deeds.

Holy Spirit come, and in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**