

*And if you feel drawn to pray:*

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and forever.

**Amen**

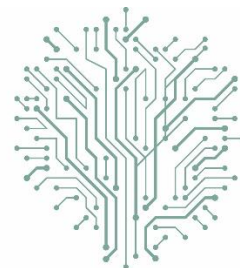
## Closing Responses & Blessing

Let us be open to the bread that nourishes the soul.  
Let us be seekers of the bread of life.  
Let us share this bread amongst others, near and far.

Eternal One,  
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

John 6: 51-58  
I am the Living Bread!

### Welcome

*An opportunity to welcome people to the gathering.*

## Responses & Gathering Prayer

Ho, everyone who thirsts,  
come to the waters;  
and you that have no money,  
come, buy and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk  
without money and without price.  
2 Why do you spend your money for that which is not  
bread, and your labour for that which does not  
satisfy?  
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,  
and delight yourselves in rich food.  
3 Incline your ear, and come to me;  
listen, so that you may live.

[Isaiah 55: 1-2.]

Lord, draw our hearts and souls into your presence,  
Feed us on the bread that only you can give,  
And quench us with your waters of life.

**Amen.**

## Music for Reflection

Suggested song: I am the Bread of Life.

<https://miafrate.bandcamp.com/track/i-am-the-bread-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

**John 6: 51-58**

51 I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

52 The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” 53 So Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. 54 Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; 55 for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. 56 Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. 57 Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. 58 This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.”

## The Message

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

## Questions for conversation

- In your own words, what do you think Jesus is talking about in our passage today?
- What have you heard and thought from the Word today?
- What did you hear from 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 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:

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*