

For ourselves ...
Silence

We pray an inner truth that continues to draw us
deeper in faith.

Oh Lord hear our prayer.

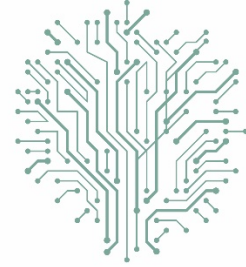
Amen.

Closing Responses & Blessing

Go with us along the way O Christ,
Our lives drawn once more to the journey.

**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 18: 33-38
What is Truth (Christ the King)**

Welcome

An opportunity to welcome people to the gathering

Responses & Gathering Prayer

Gather around people,
And let us be in God's presence.

Come those of you who want to follow the Christ.
Come those of you who have ears to listen and
hear.
Come those of you who are longing for peace.
Come those of you who are seekers of truth.

For we are disciples of the Christ and Christian
community together.

Let us pray.

Sit beside and within us Lord,
And let truth and wisdom be our guides.
For with thankfulness, we respond
To the life and hope you give.

Amen.

Music for Reflection

Suggested song: Jesus, Son of God and man.

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<https://johncoleman.bandcamp.com/track/jesus-son-of-god-and-man>

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 18: 33-38. (Or read 18:12 – 19: 16)

³³ Then Pilate entered the headquarters^[a] again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” ³⁴ Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” ³⁵ Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” ³⁶ Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” ³⁷ Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.” ³⁸ Pilate asked him, “What is truth?”

The Message

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

Questions for conversation

- How do you understand truth?
- 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

In our simple faith, we bring our prayers for your creation and for the people of this world.

[if the leader chooses, people can be invited to speak their own prayers in the silences]

● O Christ we open ourselves in prayer for:
Your creation ...
Silence

We pray that there would be truthfulness in the preciousness of your creation.

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

We pray for those who suffer the sorrows of distorted beliefs and powers.

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

We pray for the gentle truth of understanding, of acceptance, of healing, of peace upon them.

For our church and our wider community ...
Silence

We pray that the church would seek truth beyond itself and the truth in seeking the way of Christ.