

Closing Responses & Blessing

May the God of Advent,
the God of waiting,
the God with us, 1.
Bless us and the people we meet along the way
Father,
Son
and Holy Spirit.
Amen

Waiting for the dawn:

I am waiting for the dawning of the bright
and blessed day, when the darkest night of
sorrow shall have vanished far away:
when forever with the Saviour far beyond this vale
of tears, I shall swell the song of worship through the
everlasting years.

*'Cos I am waiting
For heaven to break in
Yes I am longing
For Jesus to come*

I am looking at the brightness see it shining from afar.
Of the clear and joyous beaming of the bright and morning
star. Through the dark grey mist of morning do I see its
glorious light; then away with every shadow of this sad and
weary night.

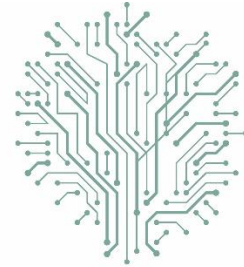
*'Cos I am waiting
For heaven to break in
Yes I am longing
For Jesus to come * 2*

I am waiting for the coming of the Lord who died for me; oh
His words have thrilled my spirit, 'I will come again for
thee.' I can almost hear His footfall, on the threshold of the
door, and my heart, my heart is longing to be with Him
evermore.

*'Cos I am waiting
For heaven to break in
Yes I am longing
For Jesus to come *2*

Lyrics by Samuel Francis and Malcolm Gordon
Music by Malcolm Gordon © [Into the deep](#), 2013

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Saltbush Community Ministers
1 Wild Goose: Big Book of Liturgies 2018
Page 34. Dave Broom



SALTBUSH
UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

*A Holy Communion video led liturgy is available at
<https://vimeo.com/572335335>*

Luke 3: 1 – 6
Advent 2

Welcome

An opportunity to welcome people to the gathering

Responses & Gathering Prayer

God of Advent,
among refugees and outcasts
you breathed your first breaths.
In the cry of a new born child you proclaimed
Emmanuel, God-with-us.
Come, God of the margins,
breath into us the Spirit of longing for your kingdom.
Come this Advent to make us dream of and work for;
a better world of justice and freedom.

Come, Lord, come. 1.

Amen.

Music for Reflection

Suggested song: [Waiting for the dawn](#)

Lyrics by Samuel Francis and Malcolm Gordon
Music by Malcolm Gordon © [Into the deep](#), 2013
<https://malcolmgordon.bandcamp.com/track/waiting-for-the-dawn>

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

Luke 3: 1 – 6

The Proclamation of John the Baptist

3 In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. ⁵Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; ⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

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?
- How do the images of Wilderness, Exile and Childlessness help us in our waiting for the breaking in of God in the world?
- 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

God of waiting as our expectation rises in this season of Advent, hear our prayers.

We pray for those like John, who are willing to humble themselves, and pass up on the possibility of popularity so that others may invest in real hope. And in the silence, we pray for those like us who have given up on hope.

Silence:

We pray for those whose voices cry from the wilderness and others are those who are brave enough to take up unpopular causes. And in the silence, we pray for those not quite game enough to speak up.

Silence:

We pray for those who speak for others who have no voice, and others are those who, in modesty and humility, point to a more profound, fulfilling and satisfy way of being. And in the silence, we pray for those who live the way of goodness and Godness, which leads to a more wholesome living and eternal life.

Silence:

We pray and remember all the John’s coming with water and hard words of repentance to point us Godward.

And in the silence, we pray come Emmanuel, come God with us and redeem this world

Amen.

(Adapted from Wild Goose - big book of worship resources 2017. Page 19/20. Glendon Macaulay)