

Into the Deep

Draw us from the shallows
Out into the deep
Our faith was weak and hollow
But its strengthened in our need
Though the waters overwhelm us
Though the shore be far from sight
From the storm you call forth stillness
From the darkness you call light

Even the wind and the waves
Will listen to your voice
Oh speak your love and your grace
And calm the storm within

Lead us from the certain
Into your mystery
With fearless love abounding
You ride the raging seas
Though the waters overwhelm us
Though the shore be far away
You walk on waves to find us
Your hands reach out to save

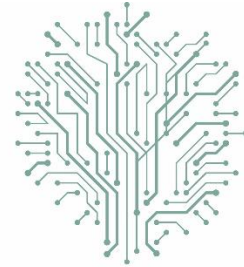
Even the wind and the waves
Will listen to your voice
Oh speak your love and your grace
And calm the storm within

Far beyond the headland
Where fear and freedom meet
The drowning and the dying
You haul us to our feet
Though the waters overwhelm us
Though the shore is far behind
Drifting daughter's you will rescue
Shipwrecked son's you will find

Even the wind and the waves
Will listen to your voice
Oh speak your love and your grace
And calm the storm within

Put Your Hand in the Hand (chorus only)

Put your hand in the hand of the man who stilled the water;
Put your hand in the hand of the man who calmed the sea.
Take a look at yourself and you can look at others differently,
By putting your hand in the hand of the man from Galilee.



SALTBUSH
UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Mark 4:35-41
Get into the Boat

Welcome

We come to hear the Good News, to embody the love of God the Creator in Christ as we are empowered by the Holy Spirit and share our lives with others.

Lighting of Christ Candle

God's truth is revealed in Jesus Christ the light of the world. May the light shine for the hope of the world. (light the candle)

Responses & Gathering Prayer

Creator God, of land, sky and ocean.

We praise you for the works of your hand.

You walk alongside us, in all the challenges, joys and ordinariness of life.

We thank you for your constant presence.

You invite us to change: to growth, maturity, wisdom and love.

Even when our faith is weak, you remind us that we are all called to be your people.

May we live as people aware of the ever-present God. Creator, Redeemer and Spirit of God.

Song:

[Into the Deep](#) by Malcolm Gordon

<https://malcolmgordon.bandcamp.com/album/into-the-deep>

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

Mark 4:35-41

³⁵On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side." ³⁶And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. ³⁷A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. ³⁸But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" ³⁹He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. ⁴⁰He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" ⁴¹And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

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

Gracious Ever-present Creator, you call us into the deep, the unknown and the new.

You do not leave us to fend for ourselves but are there with us in the midst of uncertainty, in our deepest fears.

You invite us to journey with you; as we bring to our prayers may our lives be a reflection of your will. (pause)

For those who are powerless and weighed down by the injustices they experience each day as they are judged by race, class and religion. **May we weather the storm alongside them.**

(pause)

For the planet and all living things that fight for survival against the insatiable plunder of human excess. **May we navigate a way to renewing the earth as we are co-creators with you.**

(pause)

We know you are with those who are experiencing difficult days in our communities, may we be free to share our lives with them also. **May we reach their shores and hold out our hands in friendship and support.**

(pause)

In this time of silence we bring you our prayers.

(pause)

In Christ, Amen.

Song for Reflection:

[Put Your Hand in the Hand of the Man from Galilee.](#)

Sung by Anne Murray written by Gene MacLellan

<https://youtu.be/SY-2XHqKGUw>

Closing Responses & Blessing

Go into the world knowing the God of Creation, the Christ, who stills the storm and calls us to the other side, is with us all.

Go knowing the wisdom, the challenge and the love of God.

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