



SALTBUSH

UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

## Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Mark 12:38-44  
Fullness of Life

### Welcome

We come to hear the Good News, to embody the love of God in Christ as we 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.

### Responses & Gathering Prayer

God of abundant love,  
pour your love, your grace and mercy upon us.  
That we may recognise your action in our lives and we  
may give our love and our lives to you as we serve  
your creation.  
When we hold back and allow our pride and  
insecurities to dictate our actions, forgive us and  
strengthen us to give ourselves fully and completely.  
In Christ's name we pray. Amen

### Song:

[As In Heaven](https://malcolmgordon.bandcamp.com/track/as-in-heaven) by Malcolm Gordon  
<https://malcolmgordon.bandcamp.com/track/as-in-heaven>

### 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 12:38-44

<sup>38</sup>As he taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, <sup>39</sup>and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! <sup>40</sup>They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

<sup>41</sup>He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. <sup>42</sup>A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. <sup>43</sup>Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. <sup>44</sup>For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

## 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

God of abundance, as you show your love for us in relationship with you, we pray that we show our gratitude through our living. That we know the fullness of your life shown to us in Jesus and by the leading of the Holy Spirit. That we are free to live authentic, grace filled lives. Amen

(pause)

For those who are shut out and shunned by the injustices they experience each day as they are judged by gender, race, class and religion. **May they know your grace and mercy.**

(pause)

For the planet and all living things that fight for survival against the insatiable plunder of human excess. **May you renew the face of the earth.**

(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. **Give us the words to speak and the courage to act for a just world.**

(pause)

In this time of silence we bring you our prayers. **May we feel the breath of the Spirit upon us.**

(pause)

In Christ, Amen.

## Song for Reflection:

[The Grace](#) by Malcolm Gordon

<https://malcolmgordon.bandcamp.com/track/the-grace>

## Closing Responses & Blessing

As Jesus gave of himself fully and completely, and as the widow gave all that she had, may we give ourselves fully and completely to all whom we meet and all that God calls us to do.

Go with the love of God.

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