

Sea of God

Jesus looked down, on the Jordan
Jesus looked down, on the Jordan
Jesus looked down, on the Jordan
For the drowning, day had come

Jesus sank down, in that water
Jesus sank down, in that water
Jesus sank down, in that water
And he rose up into the sun

*We are rivers, who love the ocean
We are travellers everyone
Let the waters, overflow us
The sea of God, holds everyone*

The Holy Spirit, fell upon him
The Holy Spirit, fell upon him
The Holy Spirit, fell upon him
The voice proclaimed him, beloved son

We are rivers, who love the ocean ...

The Spirit sent him, into the silence
The Spirit sent him, into the silence
The Spirit sent him, into the silence
Into the shadow, the desert stone

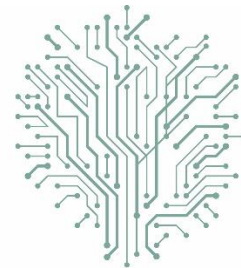
We are rivers, who love the ocean ...

We're all invited to flow together
We're all invited to flow together
We're all invited to flow together
For we are many – we are one

We are rivers, who love the ocean ...

John Coleman

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SALTBUSH
UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Luke 3: 15-17, 21-22
God Revealed

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

We gather knowing:

God whose dominion is over all creation is with us.

We come with a sense of expectation:

God is revealed in the commonplace, even in a child.

Interrupt our lives, O God, with stars we cannot refuse to see. Set before us today those life-changing possibilities which send us on better paths than we have ever known. Go with us to explore the mysteries of Christ. Fill us with awe and wonder, with joy and confidence, with generosity and praise. Reveal to us in new ways the promises of the gospel, that we may be bold to proclaim good news by the way we live.

Amen. *

Song

[Sea of God.](#) John Coleman

<https://johncoleman.bandcamp.com/track/sea-of-god>

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 3:15-22

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

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 all people, before whom all distinctions of rank and worth melt away, draw us into the larger community you are creating.

Help us search for you revelation, that we may discover anew the joy of worship, the satisfaction of responsible stewardship and the exhilaration of selfless service. So as we gather we bring to you our prayers:

For creation.....

For those experiencing difficulties in life...

For our world...

For our community...

For ourselves...

Gracious God, we long for the day when all your children emerge from the shadows into your light, into the fullness of life you intended for us all. In Christ. Amen *

Music for Reflection:

[Be Thou my Vision](https://marybrizard1.bandcamp.com/track/be-thou-my-vision) (instrumental- Mary Brizard)
<https://marybrizard1.bandcamp.com/track/be-thou-my-vision>

Closing Responses & Blessing

Plunge into the deep and arise with a new vision, hearing the voice addressed to you 'my beloved'. Go into the world, be alive to the movement of God, the wildness of the Holy Spirit, the firm but gentle leading of Jesus.

Amen

* Fresh Winds of the Spirit, Book 2 by Lavon Bayler