



SALTBUSH

UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Luke 5:1-11
Catching God's Graciousness

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

Gracious God,
The cosmos is filled with your wonder and glory, so much more than we could ever begin to comprehend. Yet you invite us to journey with you, to be alert to your presence and aware of your love.

Thank you for the abundance of your life.

May we know it in our own living.

May we share your graciousness with others.

May we honour your abundant life in them.

In Jesus name we pray. Amen

Song:

[Pilgrims Together](https://johncoleman.bandcamp.com/track/pilgrims-together) by John Coleman

<https://johncoleman.bandcamp.com/track/pilgrims-together>

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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 5:1-11

5Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, ²he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. ³He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. ⁴When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." ⁵Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." ⁶When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. ⁷So they signalled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" ⁹For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; ¹⁰and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." ¹¹When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed 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 God, your Word and Spirit challenge our lives. Sometimes we attribute our success solely to how welcoming we are, our charismatic leadership, our buildings or the programs we conduct. Remind us again that it is by your gracious abundance that make all things possible. We pray that you continue to speak into our lives, unsettle our pride and bring us to new life-giving ways of understanding.

(pause)

For those whose lives are given less value or respect because of gender, class, race or religion. **May we honour your life in them.**

(pause)

For all your creation, the land, the animals, the oceans that are under threat because of our insatiable need for more. **May we honour your creation as we work for renewal.**

(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, **an expression of your love in their midst.**

(pause)

In this time of silence we bring you our prayers.

(pause)

In Christ, Amen.

Song for Reflection:

[Morning has Broken](#): sung by Orla Fallon (by Elanor Farjeon)

<https://youtu.be/h5D3LEjGF8A>

Closing Responses & Blessing

Go from here, journey with the One who walks with you and calls you to a deeper truth.

Go with open hearts and minds, knowing the Spirit of God is with you.

And may you be voices of wisdom, your actions standing for justice and peace as you point to the God of Grace, Abundance and Love.

In the name of Christ.

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