

In that knowledge, and in our simple faith, we bring our prayers for your creation and for the people of this world.

•O Christ we open ourselves in prayer for:  
Your creation ...  
*Silence*

For others we have heard about throughout our world ...  
*Silence*

For other people we know and are close to ...  
*Silence*

For our church and our wider community ...  
*Silence*

For ourselves ...  
*Silence*

Amen.

## Closing Responses & Blessing

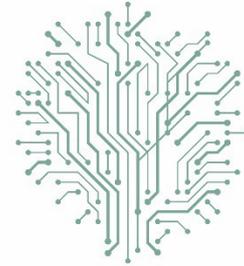
Let us be a people who open ourselves to God's wonder.

Let us be a people who can be and sit in God's presence.

Let us be a people who, unable to hold onto God, allow God to hold onto us.

**We leave and go out into the world as God's people. Bless us and the people we meet along the way. Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

**Amen.**



SALTBUSH  
UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

## Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

**Luke 9: 28-36  
Lent 2 – Holding onto God!**

### Welcome

An opportunity to welcome people to the gathering

### Responses & Gathering Prayer

In this time of Lent, season of passing, journey to the cross, Holy God draw us beyond remaining as we are, unchanged, dormant, and through the life and death of Christ, bring us into life.

Help us let go.

Help us change.

Help us plant.

Help us to learn what makes for life.

Help us be in your presence without believing we own you or contain you.

Let us draw ourselves into silent prayer and confession. *silence*

Let us hear that we are forgiven in Christ. Lord, touch us once more with your peace and presence we pray. **Amen.**

### Music for Reflection

Suggested song: Revealing the Holy

@John Coleman

<https://johncoleman.bandcamp.com/album/revealing-the-holy>

## 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 9: 28-36**

The Transfiguration

<sup>28</sup> Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. <sup>29</sup> And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>30</sup> Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. <sup>31</sup> They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. <sup>32</sup> Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. <sup>33</sup> Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah”—not knowing what he said. <sup>34</sup> While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. <sup>35</sup> Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!” <sup>36</sup> When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

## The Message

From your Scattered Community Minister or another leader within your gathering.

## Questions for conversation

- What do you make of Peter’s suggestion of building three dwellings?
- I wonder what you have heard and thought from the Word today for yourself?
- 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

Eternal God,  
where there is hope, you are there.  
Where there is compassion and the desire for wholeness, you are there.  
Where there is the struggle for peace, you are there.  
Where the hungry are fed, and the poor empowered, you are there.  
Where there is delight in the trees of the land, or the depths of the seas, you are there.  
Wherever love is announced, you are there.

In you is such longing for your creation, and for humanity, and we thank you for that presence of you, in Spirit, in people, renewing, calling, and saving.