

# Closing Responses & Blessing

Send us out God of hope and love.

Restore our endurance to faithfully follow the Christ,  
who shows us the way even in troubled and changing  
times.

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

## In You We Live

1. As in times gone past we tread the ancient pathway  
Leading to the eternal one  
With a multitude we join in worship  
Voices raised in joyful song.  
In you we live and have our being  
Hallelujah, hallelu!  
We breathe and move and have our being  
Hallelu---jah!

2. Through seasons of our lives we walk with faithful  
rhythm  
Hearts and hopes set on God  
In the shadow lands and in the morning  
We're drawn towards the glorious Son!  
In you we live and have our being  
Hallelujah, hallelu!  
We breathe and move and have our being  
Hallelu---jah!

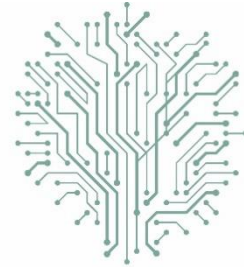
3. In the days to come we'll walk the path before us.  
When it's clear and smooth or harsh and rough  
And his mighty hands will lead and guide us  
Scarred hands that prove his sacred love.  
In you we live and have our being  
Hallelujah, hallelu!  
We breathe and move and have our being  
Hallelu---jah  
Hallelu---jah!  
Emmanuel, God with us (4x)

In you we live and have our being  
Hallelujah, hallelu!  
We breathe and move and have our being  
Hallelu---jah!  
Hallelu---jah!

@Karen Oer <https://malcolmgordon.bandcamp.com/track/in-you-we-live-keren-oev>

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Saltbush Community Ministers

- 1 © Janet Morley. 2006: All Desires Known.  
Page 30. Sacred Space
- 2 Prayers from The Community of Aidan and Hilda  
<https://www.aidanandhilda.org.uk/prayer-examples.php>



SALTBUSH  
UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

## Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

*A Holy Communion video led liturgy is available at*  
<https://vimeo.com/572335335>

Luke 21: 5-19  
Hope & Endurance

## Welcome

An opportunity to welcome people to the gathering

## Responses & Gathering Prayer

If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the  
furthest limits of the sea,  
even there your hand shall lead me and your right  
hand shall hold me fast. (Ps 139: 9-10)

*Be still and aware of God's presence  
within and all around.*

Holy God,  
whose presence is known in the structures we build,  
and also in their collapse;  
establish in us a community of hope,  
not to contain your mystery,  
but to be led beyond security into your scared space,  
through Jesus Christ, 1.

**Amen.**

## Music for Reflection

Suggested song: [In you we live](#)

© Written by Sue Mephem.

Performed by Keren Oey and the Flagstaff Community Choir.  
Credits from [Songs for the Road](#), released July 1, 2014

<https://malcolmgordon.bandcamp.com/track/in-you-we-live-keren-oev>

## 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 21: 5-19**

**The Destruction of the Temple Foretold**

<sup>5</sup> When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, <sup>6</sup> “As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

**Signs and Persecutions**

<sup>7</sup> They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” <sup>8</sup> And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near! Do not go after them.

<sup>9</sup> “When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” <sup>10</sup> Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; <sup>11</sup> there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

<sup>12</sup> “But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. <sup>13</sup> This will give you an opportunity to testify. <sup>14</sup> So make up your minds not to prepare your defence in advance; <sup>15</sup> for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. <sup>16</sup> You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. <sup>17</sup> You will be hated by all because of my name. <sup>18</sup> But not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup> By your endurance you will gain your souls.

## The Message

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

## Questions for conversation

- What did you hear in the Word today?
- Where do you find hope and endurance in your faith in these changing times?
- How could your Christian Community respond to faithful living and supporting those impacted by current events?

## 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.

## Music for Reflection

Suggested song: [The Way](#)

© A Pocketful of Smooth Stones, released May 20, 2020  
Written, performed and produced by Malcolm Gordon  
<https://malcolmgordon.bandcamp.com/track/the-way-w-footsteps>

## Prayers for Others

In hope and endurance Lord, we offer you all we are, all we have, all we do, and all whom we shall meet this day that you will be given the glory.

We offer you our homes and work, our schools and leisure, and everyone in our community today; may all be done as unto you.

We offer you the broken and hungry ...  
May the wealth and work of the world be available to all and for the exploitation of none.

*Silence*

May your presence be known to all.  
Circle us, Lord  
Keep strife without, keep peace within  
Keep fear without, keep hope within  
Keep pride without, keep trust within  
Keep evil out, keep good within

May we walk in the hope of your kingdom  
Fill us with your light and love  
Be with us all through this day Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. 2.  
Amen.