START FROM WHERE YOU ARE

I see you sitting in your room

You're thinking: what kind of world is this? Peace is like the stars - seems so far away.

Why don't you start from where you are, do what you can do

There's a whole lot of changes that can only start from you.

You may be only small, of everyone the least But yours could be the milligram that tips the scales to peace

And yours could be the all-important patch of ground Where first we gained a foothold and turned the world around.

I know the news is mostly bad -This world it seems a sad old place. Peace is on the run - are we in a losing race?

Why don't you start from where you are, do what you can do.

The most important changes have started with a few. If you use the skills you have, hope will find release. If you join your hope to others' hope the movement will increase

All round the world there's people choosing to believe

That peace might just be possible - you don't have to naive

Why don't you start from where you are Do what you can do today.

You hear a million words a day -They're selling you the same old lie. But peace is like the pearl money cannot buy.

Why don't you start from where you are, do what you can do.

There's a different way of thinking, very old but ever new:

Share the things we have, love our enemy Yes, calling from the centre, the God of life decrees The little child is more important than the king And until we start to act that way we're just dangling from a string.

Why don't we start from where we are Do what we can do today.

Words and music by Peter Kearney

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Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

John 10:1-11,16-20. Pentecost 4: Hospitality and Kindness

For Saltbush Communion go to:

https://vimeo.com/582800387

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

Merciful God, your ways are often a mystery to us. We are warned of the stranger, then you bring us healing and peace though those we are taught to mistrust. You speak words of wisdom through those we do not wish to hear.

Bathe us in the healing waters of your love once more, that we may be washed clean of our arrogance and presumption. Then send us out with messages of peace, that others may hear our words, and know that you are still speaking, that your reign has come near. In Christ. Amen.

Song

<u>Start from Where you Are</u> by Peter Kearney. https://peterkearney.bandcamp.com/track/40-start-from-where -you -are

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 10:1-20

10After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. ²He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. 4Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. 5Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' 6And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. ⁷Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the labourer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. 8Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' 10 But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, 11'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.' 16"Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me."

¹⁷The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!" ¹⁸He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. ¹⁹See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. ²⁰Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

The Message

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

Questions for conversation

- •How did you feel when a stranger showed you welcome and kindness?
- •What areas of your life do you or would you like to show hospitality and kindness?

Silence

Spend some time in silence sitting still (suggested 5 minutes). Close your eyes lightly. Sit relaxed but alert. Don't worry too much if your mind is filled with other thoughts, allow them to drift away like a feather on the wind.

Prayers for Others

O God, as we worship in your presence, we come bearing joys and sorrows.

Send your Spirit of Peace amongst us.

Today we pray for all people who live in the pain and destruction of war. We pray especially for the people of Ukraine.

Send your Spirit of Peace amongst places of war.

Today we pray for all people who seek asylum and refuge, for the displaced and marginalized. May they find welcome and home.

Send your Spirit of Peace amongst places of refuge.

Today we pray for all people who suffer in silence: the sick, the abused, the ignored. May they find restoration.

Send you Spirit of Peace amongst places of suffering.

Today, O God, we pray for our community as we seek to be a people sent in peace.

Grant us wholeness as we go your way.

Send your Spirit of Peace amongst us here in this place. Amen.

Music for Reflection:

<u>Thuma Mina</u> sung by Northern Harmony https://northernharmony.bandcamp.com/track/thuma-mina

Thuma mina translates: "Send me lord, send me Lord into the world."

Closing Responses & Blessing

The Lord of the harvest sends us out to offer peace and to embody the Kingdom of God.

Go in Peace, to love and serve.

In the name of God the Creator, God the Saviour and God the Spirit Holiness. Amen *

(*prayers from Words for Worship: MediaCom Publications)