

Holy Spirit, storm and breath of love;
bridge-builder, eye-opener,
waker of the oppressed,
unseen and unexpected,
untameable energy of life -
we praise and adore you.
Hear our prayer for other people we know and are
close to ...

Silence

Holy Trinity, forever one,
whose nature is community;
source of all sharing,
in whom we love, and meet, and know our
neighbour:
life in all its fullness, making all things new:
we praise and adore you.
Hear our prayer for our church, our wider
community and for ourselves ...

Silence

Hear all these our prayers who sends us out
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

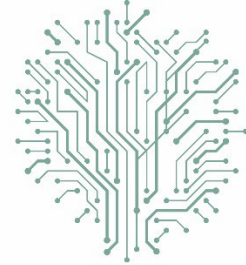
Amen.

Adapted from - Brian Wren, Christian Aid Prayers, 1980.
<http://www.christianaid.org.uk/resources/churches/prayer/church-seasons.aspx>

Closing Responses & Blessing

Go our into the world,
To love and serve the Lord.

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: 51-62
Pentecost 3

Welcome

An opportunity to welcome people to the gathering

Responses & Gathering Prayer

“And Jesus said to them.... Follow me.”

Let’s pray.

Lord, in different ways for each gathered here
today, we have heard a call to follow.

At times the call seemed distant.
At times we felt sure footed.
There were paths that have been hard.
Others times that were easy.

Lord, we know the call to follow goes on in our
lives and the need to respond remains.

Forgive us when we denied the invitation.
Forgive us when we have been all too sure of
ourselves along the way.
Forgive us when we have been judgmental of
others as a way of affirming our own call.

So unfold once more, your hand upon us and let
us hear again, the way of forgiveness, challenge,
discipleship and the road before us.

Amen.

Music for Reflection

Suggested song: [The Summons...](#)

Acknowledgment: © John Bell

<https://open.spotify.com/track/OMXF8sxW0k2QYrSEaSeeUz?si=f2af240172764cfd>

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: 51-62.

A Samaritan Village Refuses to Receive Jesus

51 When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. 52 And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; 53 but they did not receive him, because his face was set towards Jerusalem. 54 When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, 'Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?' 55 But he turned and rebuked them. 56 Then they went on to another village.

Would-Be Followers of Jesus

57 As they were going along the road, someone said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.' 58 And Jesus said to him, 'Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.' 59 To another he said, 'Follow me.' But he said, 'Lord, first let me go and bury my father.' 60 But Jesus said to him, 'Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.' 61 Another said, 'I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.' 62 Jesus said to him, 'No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.'

The Message

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

Questions for conversation

- What do you think Jesus said to James and John when he rebuked them?
- What is discipleship?
- What did you hear from 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

Living Love,
beginning and end,
giver of food and drink,
clothing and warmth,
love and hope:
life in all its goodness -
we praise and adore you.
Hear our prayer for your creation ...

Silence

Jesus, wisdom and word;
lover of outcasts,
friend of the poor;
one of us yet one with God;
crucified and risen:
life in the midst of death -
we praise and adore you.
Hear our prayer for others we have heard about
throughout our world ...

Silence