

We pray for people we know and people we love and are close to who need hope, or peace, or rest, or faith.

[silence]

We pray for ourselves who in our business and striving alongside the demands and expectations, hear again the invitation to prayer and relationship.

[silence]

We give thanks for God's ever present goodness that flows and for the eternal presence of the Holy Spirit. We give thanks for Christ who reminds us of love, community, hope, light and life.

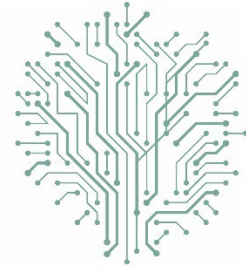
We pray together:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Closing Responses & Blessing

Go out 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 11: 1-13
Pentecost 7

Welcome

An opportunity to welcome people to the gathering

Responses & Gathering Prayer

● Come Holy Spirit of God, blow amongst us, and our lives. Welcome us to this place, as we welcome you. Open our ears, our hearts, our minds, and be a gentle blowing, a quiet word, a fire burning, a healing presence, as each has need. In the presence of the faithful we will proclaim your name.

As we come together today, old or young, sure or uncertain, peaceful or troubled, hopeful or doubtful, we give thanks that you welcome us into your being and into your love.

Forgive us for our acts that mean that we are less than open to you.
Forgive us for the ways open and hidden where do not welcome others.
Forgive us that we find it hard even to acknowledge within ourselves that we are loved and welcomed.

[silence]

Thankyou Jesus that you continue to offer love.
thankyou that you always welcome us.
thankyou that you already forgive. **Amen.**

Music for Reflection

Suggested song: **Quietly Quietly Be...**

Acknowledgment: © John Coleman

<https://johncoleman.bandcamp.com/track/quietly-be>

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 11: 1-13.

The Lord's Prayer

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.' 2 He said to them, 'When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.

3 Give us each day our daily bread.

4 And forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive everyone
indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial.'

Perseverance in Prayer

5 And he said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, "Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; 6 for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him." 7 And he answers from within, "Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything." 8 I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

9 'So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. 10 For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. 11 Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? 12 Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? 13 If you then, who are evil, know how

to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

The Message

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

Questions for conversation

- What is your experience of prayer and what do you hear in these passages?
- I wonder what you heard in the Word today for you and for the 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

We give thanks for God's presence within and around all life. In that presence we bring our prayer.

We give thanks for prayer and a God who draws near to us. Let us sit with God.

[silence]

We pray for the world in it's turmoil and struggle. We pray for goodness where there is only suffering and for light where there is darkness.

[silence]