

We pray for people we know who feel lost.

[silence]

May they be found and loved.

We pray for creation, struggling to breath, to flow,
to thrive, to grow.

[silence]

Renew us and your whole creation O God.

We pray for ourselves, who so easily forget your
way, where we feel lost ourselves, in our places of
longing.

[silence]

Come to us in your Spirit and dwell within we pray.

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 forever.

Amen.

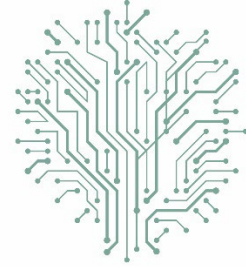
Closing Responses & Blessing

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.

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SALTBUSH

UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Luke 15: 1-10.
Parables of Lost Things

Welcome

An opportunity to welcome people to the gathering

Responses & Gathering Prayer

Lord, you long for us as a shepherd looks for the
one lost sheep or like the woman sweeping her
house to look for the one lost coin.

You long for us, for humanity, for our world.

Search out Lord where we feel lost in life.
Search out Lord where we need love.
Search out Lord those things we try to hide.
Search out Lord the faith we hold within.

Lord, gather us together as Christian community in
this place as you gather here with us through your
Spirit of life.

Hold us.
Forgive us.
Renew us into your world.

We pray. **Amen.**

Music for Reflection

Suggested song: [Come come come...](#)

*Acknowledgment: © 2020 A pocket full of stones Malcom
Gordon*

<https://malcolmgordon.bandcamp.com/album/a-pocketful-of-smooth-stones>

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 15: 1-10

The Parable of the Lost Sheep

15 Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.'

³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ 'Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵ When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost." ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance.'

The Parable of the Lost Coin

⁸ 'Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, "Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost." ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.'

The Message

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

Questions for conversation

- Luke 15 is a whole chapter with parables about lost things. Why is this theme of finding lost things so much a part of Jesus story telling?
- 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

We give thanks in this season of new life for renewal and hope, creation and regeneration.

We give thanks for reminders of goodness, colour, tenderness and love.

We give thanks for the mystery of life and God within and around.

In our faith, with hope, alongside Spirit, we pray for others, ourselves, and our world.

We pray for people and places who need hope.
[silence]
Bring hopefulness O God we pray.

We pray for people and places who know death and dying.
[silence]
May there be peace and new life.