

Lead Me to Hope

Lead me to hope, oh lead me to hope
Lead me to hope I pray
So I can live and work for your day
Lead me to hope I pray.
When I am numb with my despair
When I'm too numb to care
Lead me to hope, oh lead me to hope
Lead me to hope I pray.

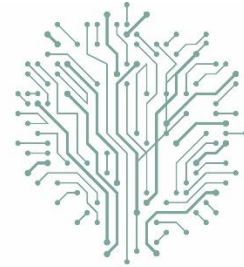
Lead me to love, oh lead me to love
Lead me to love I pray
So I can I can live and work for your day
Lead me to love I pray.
When I am cold within myself
When I'm too cold to care
Lead me to love, oh lead me to love
Lead me to love I pray.

Lead me to faith, oh lead me to faith
Lead me to faith I pray
So I can I can live and work for your day
Lead me to faith I pray.
When I am lost in the maze of time
When I'm too tired to care
Lead me to faith, oh lead me to faith
Lead me to faith I pray

Lead us to peace, oh lead us to peace
Lead us to peace we pray
So we can live, not fear for the day
Lead us to peace we pray.
When we are unjust, too scared to trust
As we prepare for war
Lead us to peace, oh lead us to peace
Lead us to peace we pray.
Lead us to peace we pray.
Lead us to hope we pray.

Words and music by Peter Kearney

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2023 Saltbush Community Minister



SALTBUSH

UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Matthew 21:1-11
Palm Sunday

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

God of Eternal Love,
You have called us to the planet to be a people of love, a people of justice and compassion, a people who have Jesus to show us the Way.
You have called us to stand alongside the disadvantaged, speak out for the voiceless, sit with the lost and cry with the lonely and bereaved.
You have called us to wave our palm branches and placards against corrupted powers that choose to dominate and control.
You call us to share the passion of Christ! Hosanna!
Amen.

Song

[Lead me to Hope](https://peterkearney.bandcamp.com/track/59-lead-me-to-hope) by Peter Kearney
<https://peterkearney.bandcamp.com/track/59-lead-me-to-hope>

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

Matthew 21:1-11

21When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” ⁴This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, ⁵“Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.” ⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!” ¹⁰When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” ¹¹The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

The Message

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

Questions for conversation

- I wonder what your first thoughts were when you heard the word today?
- Where do you see yourself in the crowd? Where do you see the Church?

Silence in Two Ways

Spend some time in silence sitting still (suggested 5 minutes). Close your eyes lightly. Sit relaxed but alert.

Prayers for Others

Merciful Creator, as we wave our palm branches and follow you, we pray that we learn to have the passion of Christ.

(pause)

For those who are powerless and weighed down by the injustices they experience each day as they are

judged by race, class and religion. **May we stand alongside them with the passion of Christ.**

(pause)

For the planet and all living things that fight for survival against the insatiable plunder of human excess. **May we bring renewal with the passion of Christ.**

(pause)

We know you are with those who are experiencing difficult days in our communities, may we be free to share our lives with them also. **May we speak and act with the passion of Christ.**

(pause)

In this time of silence we bring you our prayers.

(pause)

In Christ, Amen.

Song for Reflection:

[Pilgrims Together](#) by John Coleman

<https://johncolemans.bandcamp.com/track/pilgrims-together>

Closing Responses & Blessing

Go from here, journey with the One who walks with you and calls you to a deeper truth.

Go with open hearts and minds, knowing the Spirit of God is with you.

And may you be voices of wisdom, your actions standing for justice and peace.

May your passion be in Christ!

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