

Because We Bear Your Name

1. Lord Jesus we belong to you,
you live in us, we live in you;
we live and work for you -

Because we bear your name.

2. Help us receive each other, Lord,
for you receive the least of us
and come to us in them -

3. Bless those who give us any gift,
because they know that we are yours;
reward them with your grace -

4. Let us acknowledge those as friends
who use your name to right a wrong
but have not joined us yet -

5. Let nothing that we do or say
offend the weak so that they fall
and lose their faith in you -

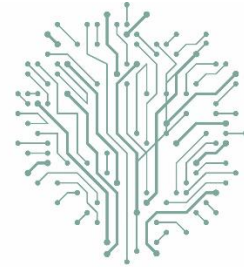
6. Keep us from missing out on life;
give hands that help, and single sight,
and feet that walk your way -

7. You are the salt that cleanses us,
so clean us out, and make us fit
for common life with you -

Because we bear your name.

Words: John Kleinig Music: Robin Mann © 1985

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2023 Saltbush Community Minister



SALTBUSH

UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Matthew 15:21-28
Challenging Expectations

For Saltbush Communion go to:

<https://vimeo.com/582800387>

Welcome

Grace, hope and peace, in the name of God the
Eternal presence, the Christ and the Holy Spirit.

Responses & Gathering Prayer

Eternal Creator, you embrace our lives with your
grace and love. You call us to be in relationship with
through Christ and lead us in the power of your Spirit.
Continue to grow us in wisdom, compassion and love,
so that we may be a reflection of you in our daily
living. Holy Presence our faith is found in you. In
Christ, Amen

Song

[Because We bear Your Name](#) by John Kleinig and
Robin Mann

[https://robinmann.bandcamp.com/track/because-
we-bear-your-name](https://robinmann.bandcamp.com/track/because-we-bear-your-name)

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

Matthew 15:21-28.

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. 22 Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." 23 But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." 24 He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." 25 But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." 26 He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." 27 She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." 28 Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

The Message

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

Questions for conversation

- When has your understanding of the nature of faith been challenged? When has your understanding of the nature of Jesus been challenged?
- How is your Christian Community exploring the struggles of what it means to be a people of faith?

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

Eternal Presence, Creator God, dwell deeply within us that we would know your truth, your love, your hope, your reign in our lives.

That our own lives reflect you and your hopes; refreshing relationships, communities and your creation.

As you dwell within us Holy Presence may we know the sacred life you call us to, that we are made in your

image and we acknowledge your image in all we meet. At this time we bring you our prayers. Gracious God we open ourselves in prayer for: *[Silence for personal prayer or invite others to open prayer in between each]*

Your creation ...

For others we have heard about throughout our world..

For other people we know and are close to ...

For our church and our wider community ...

For ourselves ...

Loving God, we bring you our prayer, in Jesus name.

Amen

Music for Reflection:

[Pilgrims Together](#) by John Coleman

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

Closing Responses & Blessing

Go in faith as images of the Living God! And may God, the eternal loving presence walk alongside you. God in Christ be your constant guide. The Holy Spirit nurture, encourage and lead you to truth.

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