

You are the Comfort of the broken-hearted;
sit with the sorrowing, that in their distress they may
know your consolation and be comforted.
Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer

You are the Healer of the suffering;
bring release to those in anguish of body, mind or
spirit, that in their pain they may know your peace.
Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer

You are the Christ, the Son of the living God;
bring life that we may dwell with each other and with
you this day and forever more.
Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer
Amen.3.

Music for Reflection

Suggested song: [Our Father in Heaven](#)
© A Pocketful of Smooth Stones, released May 20, 2020
Written, performed and produced by Malcolm Gordon
<https://malcolmgordon.bandcamp.com/track/our-father-in-heaven-w-forest>

Closing Responses & Blessing

The Son of Man stands asking us
“Who do you say that I am?”

The Son of the living God, stands inviting us to take up
the task of binding and loosing that the interests of
God might prevail in all the earth.

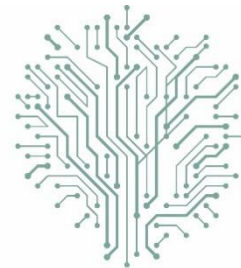
Go then and proclaim the good news.

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

Open our eyes Lord
Let us see
You are our hope Lord
You have set us free
These are the words
Passed down from your lips
We are joining the songs that you sing
Help us to hear
The truth that you speak
May it be in the words that we bring
Spirit guide us
Our hearts are open
Jesus teach us
In you we're growing © [Songs for the Road](#), 2014

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Community Ministers

- 1 Spill the Beans. <http://www.spillbeans.org.uk/>
- 2 Third Space. <http://third-space.org.uk/>
- 3 Adapted from: Janet Nelson: 2002. Let Us pray:
Page 256. Pentecost 13 – 27th August. Year A



SALTBUSH
UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

A Holy Communion video led liturgy is available at
<https://vimeo.com/572335335>

Matthew 16: 13-20
Who do you say that I am?

Welcome

An opportunity to welcome people to the gathering

Responses & Gathering Prayer

In the name of the Lord Jesus
the bread breaker
the light gatherer
cross carrier
Welcome

May the peace of the Lord Jesus
the peace maker
and the temple disturber
friend of the sinner
and companion on the road
be with us all

Let us draw close to the Lord Jesus
the saviour
the healer
the teacher
and worship him

and ask ourselves
who do we say he is? 1.

Forgive us, Lord,
when we are closed and locked up
with negative acts, thoughts and emotions.

Help us not to be imprisoned by fear, hatred,

prejudice, unforgiveness, pride, greed, anger and selfishness,
but open our hearts to your interests in the world.

Open our eyes to see Your Kin-dom
and help us to be an active part of it.
Open our ears to those who cry for help and justice.
Amen.

Music for Reflection

Suggested song: [Open our eyes](#)

© Written by Zoe Henderson and Katie Lee.

Performed by Lydia Cole [Songs for the Road](#), 2014

<https://malcolmjordan.bandcamp.com/track/open-our-eyes-zoe-henderson-and-katie-lee>

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 16: 13-20

Peter's Declaration about Jesus

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' ¹⁴ And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' ¹⁵ He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Message

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

Questions for conversation

- What did you hear in the Word today?
- Who do you say that I am?

- How might your Christian community be a place that unlocks the kin-dom of heaven?

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

Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, hear our prayers for your world and you church.

You are the Prince of Peace;
bring peace to your broken, bleeding world,
that war may cease and your people live in safety and security.
Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer

You are the wisdom of God;
give insight to the leaders of nations, that they may govern wisely and your people enjoy dignity and justice.
Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer

You are the Saviour of the world;
increase the faith of your people, that we may burn with love for you and proclaim your gospel in all the world.
Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer

You are the way, truth and the life;
lead us in your way and guide us in your truth, that we may live in love for you and for each other.
Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer

You are the close Companion of the lonely;
keep company with the friendless, that they may feel you loving presence and know that they are not alone.
Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer