

Where we hesitate to serve you,
make us restless until we change.

For yours is the kingdom,
the power and the glory for ever. 2.
Amen.

Music for Reflection

Suggested song: [Colossian Hymn](#)

© Songs for the Saints, released May 30, 2016

Music and lyrics by Malcolm Gordon

<https://malcolmgordon.bandcamp.com/track/the-colossian-hymn>

Closing Responses & Blessing

Go out from here
as workers in God's upside-down kingdom,
where the last are first and the first are last,
where needs are met in miraculous ways,
and there is grace enough for all! 3.

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

Amen

Our God of hope - help us to dream
Beyond the shores - of where we've been
Our God of light - of brave new life
Our living stream - help us to dream

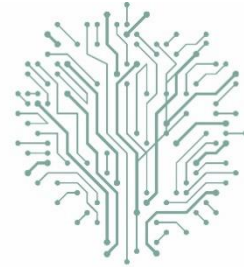
With the rich and the refugee (carry the dream)
With the lost on an angry sea (carry the dream)
With the prisoner in front of me
Carry the dream
With the brave on the freedom march (carry the dream)
With the tired and cold of heart (carry the dream)
With the poet who strikes the spark
Carry the dream
With the prophets who shake the door (carry the dream)
Who speak of love as the higher law (carry the dream)
With every pilgrim who came before
Carry the dream

Our God of flight - free us to fly
Beyond the fear - that chain's so tight
Our God of spring - sweet earth's release
Help us to dream - our God of peace
refrain

© 2012 John Coleman. Songs of Wind and Water

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Community Ministers

1. posted on the [United Church of Christ](#) webpage
2. 2018 Wild Goose Publications, page 103 Iona
Abby Worship 6C Services of Justice and Peace
3. <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/>



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 19: 27- 20: 16
Working in the Vineyard

Welcome

An opportunity to welcome people to the gathering

Responses & Gathering Prayer

Call all the labourers, O God,
Call your labourers who woke early,
Call your labourers who came late,
Call your labourers who feel wronged,
Call your labourers who feel overlooked,
Call your labourers who can't feed their children with
this wage,
Call your labourers who know they are working in
your fields,
Call your labourers who use their wage to increase
your love,

Call all your labourers, O God,
Tell us to roll up our sleeves
For we know that we have work to do.
Let us find you in the work we share here and now,
in Christ's presence we pray. 1.

Amen.

Music for Reflection

Suggested song: [Carry the Dream](#)

© 2012 John Coleman. Songs of Wind and Water

<https://johncoleman.bandcamp.com/track/carry-the-dream>

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 19: 27- 20:16

²⁷ Then Peter said in reply, "Look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?" ²⁸ Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. ²⁹ And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life. ³⁰ But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.

The Labourers in the Vineyard

²⁰ 'For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; ⁴ and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" ⁷ They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." ⁹ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." ¹³ But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

The Message

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

Questions for conversation

- What did you hear in the Word today?
- What do you find confronting about the vineyard?
- How can your Christian community celebrate the best the vineyard has to offer?

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

Creator of all,
Saviour of all,
Spirit of all,
One God in perfect community,
stay with us now

Where there is apathy,
kindle the flame of your love.

Where there is deceit,
confront every lie with your truth

Where there is hopelessness,
reveal deep wells of compassion.

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 your loving presence and know that they are not alone.
Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer

Where there is joy,
let your kindly protection be known