



SALTBUSH

UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

John 12:32-40.
Pentecost 9: Real Treasure

For Saltbush Communion go to:

<https://vimeo.com/582800387>

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the peoples on whose land we meet today. We pay our respect to elders past and present. As followers of Jesus, we seek to journey the way of hospitality, welcome and reconciliation.

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

Spirit of God, envelop us with your presence that we might be filled anew with faith.

Grant us the courage to receive the kingdom of God as gift, being aware of God's movement in our lives now and prepared for the kingdom's coming tomorrow.

May we know the treasures of love, mercy and hope. In Christ we pray. Amen.

Song

[Waiting for the Dawn](https://malcolmgordon.bandcamp.com/track/waiting-for-the-dawn) by Malcolm Gordon

<https://malcolmgordon.bandcamp.com/track/waiting-for-the-dawn>

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 12:32-40

³²“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. ³⁵“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. ³⁹“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

The Message

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

Questions for conversation

- What are the real treasures in your life?
- What ways are you prepared for God’s movement now and in the future?
- Considering the reading, what do you think the Church should emphasise as expressions of the kingdom of God?

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

Redeeming God, we pray for ourselves and for our world. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We come with our whole selves, with joys and concerns, hopes and fears. Give us new life and new hope. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for your body, the church, gathered here and around the world. May we continue to be a voice for the marginalised and oppressed, and may we open our doors and lives to all people.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for your whole creation, all life on this earth and your whole universe. May we learn to care and attend to your creation rather than see it as an expendable resource for our use.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** *

Music for Reflection:

[Holy Spirit, Love Divine](https://ataverage.bandcamp.com/track/holy-spirit-truth-divine) by At Average
<https://ataverage.bandcamp.com/track/holy-spirit-truth-divine>

Closing Responses & Blessing

Go from here trusting, in hopefulness, the promises of God. Know that the Lord is good and beckons all creation to share in the hope-filled future with Christ. Go in peace. Amen. *

(*prayers from Words for Worship: MediaCom Publications)