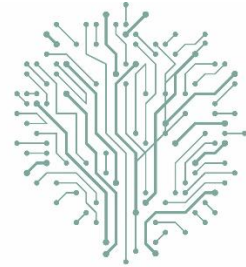


COME BEAR THE LOVE

come bear the love – come bear the love
the potter loves the clay - come bear the love
of being thrown, moulded, shaped and fired
thrown, moulded, shaped and fired
in the furnace of life - for your life to be set free
come bear the love – come bear the love
come bear the love that sets you free

John Coleman



SALTBUSH

UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Luke 16:1-13
Pentecost 15: Being Wise

For Saltbush Communion go to:

<https://vimeo.com/582800387>

Welcome

We come to hear the Good News, to embody the love of God in Christ as we share our lives with others. We also acknowledge the First Nations people, seeking ways of reconciliation, living out the command of Jesus to love our neighbour as ourselves, and showing respect to Aboriginal elders past, present and emerging. Love, respect and compassion to all people and all creation.

Lighting of Christ Candle

Responses & Gathering Prayer

Come Holy Spirit, guide us in our decisions and actions.

May you give us the creativity and courage to boldly proclaim the kingdom of God.

May we discern your call to us, to be wise and adventurous in all the aspects of our lives. Amen.

Song

[Come Bear the Love](#) by John Coleman

<https://johncoleman.bandcamp.com/track/come-bear-the-love>

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 16:1-13

16Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ²So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ ³Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ ⁵So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ ⁶He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ ⁷Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ ⁸And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes. ¹⁰“Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

The Message

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

Questions for conversation

What is distracting you, as you journey in your relationship with God? What are those things you feel you can ‘let go’ for a closer walk with God?

What is a different and wise way you and your church could proclaim 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

Jesus Christ, source of healing and inspirer of justice, we bring before you our prayers for the world, our nations, the church and our lives.

Give wisdom to leaders who hold power in communities, churches, society, businesses and nations, that all people may live in dignity and peace. Grant them discernment such that fair systems of work and economy, may be established and the divide between rich and poor diminished.

In your mercy, hear our prayer.

Bring healing to places of pain and suffering, such that those who weep are comforted and those who ache find rest.

In places of grief or destruction, where joy is gone and lives in ruins, bring restoration and consolation.

To places of economic injustice, bring fairness and to places of prejudice bring equality.

In your mercy, hear our prayer.

In our living and in our dying, in our holding and in our giving, in our work and in our play, help us to live faithfully for you, to serve you and be sources of healing and peace in the world.

In your mercy, hear our prayer.

Take these prayers, Jesus Christ, and through them shape us and form us to be your faithful people. Amen. *

Music for Reflection:

Bush Beatitudes by John Coleman

<https://johncoleman.bandcamp.com/track/bush-beatitudes>

Closing Responses & Blessing

Be in the world as faithful disciples of Christ.

And may you know the peace of Christ.

Be in the world as bearers of the Love of God.

And may you know the grace of God.

Be in the world filled with the Holy Spirit.

And may you know justice and wisdom. Amen

(*prayers from Words for Worship: MediaCom Publications)