



SALTBUSH

UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Luke 17:11-19
Belonging

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

Responses & Gathering Prayer

Come, let us meditate on the word of God.

For God's word holds wisdom and truth.

Come let us allow the Spirit to speak into our lives

For God's Spirit is active and present.

Come let us walk the ways of Christ.

For it is in Jesus that we find our way.

(pause for a moment of silent reflection)

Come let us pray.

Come, Spirit of God, fill this time of worship with the fullness of your presence.

Open our ears to hear your word

And our eyes to see your works.

May we taste the sweetness of your mercy.

May we experience your presence in all our senses as we open our hearts to the gentle touch of your compassion. Amen.*

Song:

We Belong Tessa Macaulay, Cate Burton and Zoe Henderson

<https://malcolmgordon.bandcamp.com/track/we-belong-tessa-macaulay-cate-burton-and-zoe-henderson>

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 17:11-19

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

The Message

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

Questions for conversation

- When have you felt left because you were considered different?
- When have you left others out because you thought they were different, for whatever reason?
- What does it mean for you to feel that you belong to the immensity of the love and compassion of God?
- In what ways does your church let all people know they belong to the God of love, hope and mercy?

Silence in Two Ways

Spend some time in silence sitting still. If your mind begins to fill with too many concerns, picture them drifting away.

Prayers for Others and Creation

Eternal Presence, Constant Love, may we know your desire is for us to know you in our lives.
That we know we belong in your kingdom to the vastness of your love, mercy and compassion.
That we could share the immensity of your grace with others. That we could stand as those who embody the life we have been called to in Christ.

And we bring to our prayer at this time.

For creation.

For the world.

For this country

For the community

For your Church

For ourselves.

Song for Reflection:

[Living Icon](https://malcolmgordon.bandcamp.com/album/living-icon-single) by Malcolm Gordon
<https://malcolmgordon.bandcamp.com/album/living-icon-single>

Closing Responses & Blessing

Embody the rule of love that is written in your heart, offering the sweetness of God's mercy to all you meet.

The grace of God, the love of Christ and the presence of the Spirit be with us all.

(* some prayers have been adapted from Words for Worship: MediaCom)