



SALTBUSH

UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Luke 8: 22-25.
Storm

Welcome

An opportunity to welcome people to the gathering

Responses & Gathering Prayer

God in the face of storms and things that have the
power to unmake us,
be present to us;

Grant us your peace

Jesus who falls asleep in the boat while the storm rages
around us, be with us when we feel out of control;

Grant us your peace

Holy Spirit soaring on the winds of the storm and
through the waters of the oceans calm our fears and
bring us to worship;

Grant us your peace

Amen.

Music for Reflection

Suggested song: Saranam (Refuge)

John Coleman ©2008 *Revealing The Holy*

<https://johncoleman.bandcamp.com/track/saranam-refuge>

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 8: 22-25

²²One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side of the lake." So they put out, ²³and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A windstorm swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. ²⁴They went to him and woke him up, shouting, "Master, Master, we are perishing!" And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. ²⁵He said to them, "Where is your faith?" They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, "Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?"

The Message

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

Questions for conversation

- I wonder what you have heard and thought from the Word today?
- I wonder what you heard in the Word for our church?
- What one action can you or your church take in response to the Word today?

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

Eternal God,
where there is hope, you are there.
Where there is compassion and the desire for wholeness, you are there.
Where there is the struggle for peace, you are there.
Where the hungry are fed, and the poor empowered, you are there.
Where there is delight in the trees of the land, or the depths of the seas, you are there.
Wherever love is announced, you are there.

In you is such longing for your creation, and for humanity, and we thank you for that presence of you, in Spirit, in people, renewing, calling, and saving.

In that knowledge, and in our simple faith, we bring our prayers for your creation and for the people of this world.

- O Christ we open ourselves in prayer for:
[Silence for personal prayer or invite others to open prayer in between each]

Your creation ...
Silence

For others we have heard about throughout our world ...
Silence

For other people we know and are close to ...
Silence

For our church and our wider community ...
Silence

For ourselves ...
Silence

Closing Responses & Blessing

Ever present God even in the midst of life's storms and fears open us to your presence, bringing stillness, calmness and peace.

That we might be sent out into the world to live as children of God loved, forgiven and our faith strengthened.

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