

Healing Stream (Not today)
I am lying by the water,
I have no-one to carry me
Who will lift me to the water
To the healing stream
For the healing, healing stream
For I need the stirring waters
Of the healing stream.

In the waters I see something
Is it angel, is it shark
Is it a kind hand reaching for me
Or icy fingers in the dark
But I need the stirring waters
Of the healing, healing stream
Of the healing, healing stream.

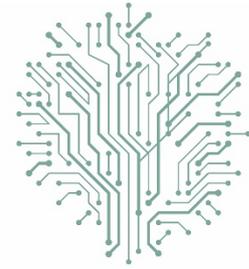
When does the water need the stirring
When would you be healed
Is it time for drowning
Of the healing, healing stream
Of the healing, healing stream.

What if the pattern becomes broken
What if life is not the same
Would you always be there healing
What will happen if it rains
For I love the healing waters
Love you healing, healing stream
I love you healing, healing stream.

When does the water need the stirring
O not today
When would you be healed
O not today
Is it time for the drowning
O not today
In the healing, healing stream
In the healing, healing stream.

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SALTBUSH
UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Matthew 3: 13-17
Baptism of Jesus

Welcome

[An opportunity to welcome people to the gathering](#)

Responses & Gathering Prayer

Hear the waters of baptism calling
(trickle water from the baptismal font)
and inviting us to be renewed
by this sign of God's love.
We answer the call to be God's people
and we live in the ways of the Christ.
Hear the Spirit of God among us
reminding us that we are all
beloved children of God.

**We answer the call to be God's people
and we live in the ways of the Christ.
Amen.**

Music for Reflection

Suggested song: [Healing Stream](#)

John Coleman © [Pilgrims Together](#) January 1, 2009

<https://johncoleman.bandcamp.com/track/healing-stream>

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 3: 13-17

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. ¹⁶ And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

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

Remember you are a beloved child of God.

You have been baptized as a follower of Christ.

You are made one in the Spirit of God.

Go and live in the love of God, the grace of Christ, and the unity of the Spirit.

Amen.

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