

## Closing Responses & Blessing

Go from here as salt and light for the world that together the kingdom of heaven might come in all its fullness.

Go from here as those who follow these commandments and teach others that together the kingdom of heaven might come in all its fullness.

**Bless us and the people we meet along the way.**

**Father,  
Son  
and Holy Spirit.  
Amen.**

There is a lady who'll give you a Spirit like bread  
There is a lady with a heart who conquers her head  
There is a lady with peace in her pocket and a tear  
for all who have bled.

There is a lady who offers the weary a bed  
There is a lady to teach us that wealth is a lie  
There is a lady to give back the selfish their eyes

There is a lady who's feed by the Spirit of Jesus  
and she'll never die  
The earth it may crumble the house that's been  
built will survive

And the house it will shine, shine, shine  
Hope is as strong as a mountain of time  
It will shine, shine, shine and open the eyes of the  
blind

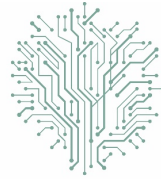
There is a house where the dying are carried to life  
There is a house where love sends the hateful to  
flight  
And there is a house where the poor are anointed  
and people can taste the divine  
This house like a heart is a prophet, a heart is a  
sign

And the house it will shine, shine, shine  
Hope is as strong as a mountain of time  
It will shine, shine, shine and open the eyes of the  
blind

[Teresa](#)

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SALTBUSH

UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

## Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Matthew 5: 13-20  
Sermon on the Mount  
Salt & Light

### Welcome

*An opportunity to welcome people to the gathering*

### Responses & Gathering Prayer

Come Jesus the one who is light and shine on our  
lives.

**that we might see your good works and  
give glory to God.**

Come the one who brings salt and flavour to the  
world, come and infuse us with your saltiness

**that we might live our lives in the  
Kingdom of Heaven.**

**Amen.**

### Music for Reflection

*Suggested song: Teresa*

*John Coleman © Revealing the Holy*

<https://johncoleman.bandcamp.com/track/teresa>

### 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 5: 13-20

<sup>13</sup> “You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled underfoot.

<sup>14</sup> “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup> No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

<sup>17</sup> “Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup> For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup> Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

## 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*