

Let us go out with the yoke of Christ,
gentle and humble offering peace and rest for the soul
to all we meet.

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

Come, Come, Come:

Come, come, come all who are weary
Come, come, come you heavy laden
Take my yolk for it is easy
Feel my burden rest ever so lightly

For I am gentle and humble
And you will find rest for your soul

Come, come, come all who are weary
Come, come, come you heavy laden
Take my yolk for it is easy
And you will find rest for your soul

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Open House:

Open House, to the Lord
May our hearts and homes be always open to the poor
May the Spirit move within us to give more
Make us an open house to the Lord.

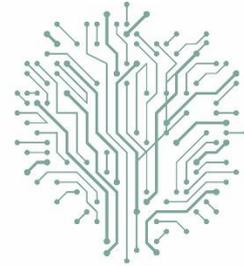
Open house, to the Lord
May our ears be always open, no-one be ignored
May the loving Spirit rid our hearts of noise
Make it an open house to the Lord.

When our house is cold with doubt
Closed to your return
Light the lanterns make us burn
When our house is cold with pride
May we recognise
The miracle of God disguised.

Open house to the Lord
Break the field of my heart, lay it open to your word
May the seed be soft and open to your rain
Make it an open house to the Lord.

When our house is cold with doubt
Closed to your return
Light the lanterns make us burn
When our house is cold with pride
May we recognise
The miracle of God disguised.

Open House, to the Lord
May our hearts and homes be always open to the poor
May the Spirit move within us to give more
Make us an open house, make us an open house
Make us an open house to the Lord.
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SALTBUSH
UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-30
The Yoke's We Wear

Welcome

An opportunity to welcome people to the gathering

Responses & Gathering Prayer

The music is playing, and God is calling.

We have come to sing and dance with God.

The prayers are flowing, and the Spirit is moving.
Breathe on us, breath of God.

Christ promises rest and renewal, when we come to him.

We are here, trusting this sacred promise. 1.

Amen.

Music for Reflection

Suggested song: [Come, Come, Come](#)

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<https://malcolmgordon.bandcamp.com/album/a-pocketful-of-smooth-stones>

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 11: 16-19, 25-30

¹⁶ “But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

¹⁷ ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; ¹⁹ the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶ yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷ All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸ “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

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 Presence, Creator God, dwell deeply within us that we would know your truth, your love, your hope, your reign in our lives.

That our own lives reflect you and your hopes; refreshing relationships, communities and your creation.

As you dwell within us Holy Presence may we know the sacred life you call us to, that we are made in your image and we acknowledge your image in all we meet.

At this time we bring you our prayers.

● 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

Amen

Music for Reflection

Suggested song: [Open House](#)

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<https://johncoleman.bandcamp.com/album/slow-action-of-love>

Closing Responses & Blessing

God has called us like an infant in a market place to sing and dance.