

Because we Bear your Name

Lord Jesus we belong to you; you live in us we live in you; we live and work for you because we bear your name.

Help us receive each other, Lord, for you received the least of us and come to us in them because we bear your name.

Bless those who give us any gift because they know that we are yours; reward them with your grace because we bear your name.

Let us acknowledge those as friends who use your name to right a wrong but have not joined us yet because we bear your name.

Let nothing that we do or say offend the weak so that they fall and lose their faith in you because we bear your name.

Keep us from missing out on life; give hands that help and single sight and feet that walk your way because we bear your name.

You are the salt that cleanses us, so clean us out and make us fit for common life with you because we bear your name.

For You Deep Stillness of the Silent Inland

For you deep stillness of the silent inland

For you deep blue of the desert sky

For you flame ed of the rocks and stones

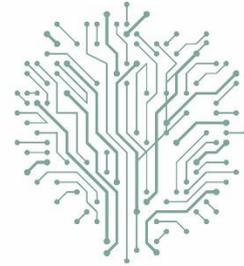
For you sweet water from hidden springs

From the edges seek the heartlands

And when your burnt by the journey

May the cool winds of the hovering Spirit soothe and replenish you.

In the name of Christ, in the name of Christ.



SALTBUSH

UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
Wheat and Weeds

Welcome

An opportunity to welcome people to the gathering

Centring words: God is neither shocked or disturbed by our imperfections. God, who is already familiar with our ways, has called us to this place.

Responses & Gathering Prayer

Psalm 139:1-8

O God, you have searched me and known me.

You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

Even before a word is on my tongue, O God, you know it completely.

You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts.

Music for Reflection

Because we bear your Name

Robin and Dorothy Mann Lets Sing Again

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FGCoJy5fwFQ>

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 13:24-43 ²⁴He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" ³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

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

Closing Responses & Blessing

Benediction: Go in faith as images of the Living God! And may God, the eternal loving presence walk alongside you. God in Christ be your constant guide. The Holy Spirit nurture, encourage and lead you to truth.

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

Closing Song: [For you Deep Stillness](#)

Robin Mann: All together Whatever and Let's sing it Again.