

Closing Responses & Blessing

Go in faith as images of the Living God!
Know the Reign of Christ in your life and in the world
you live.

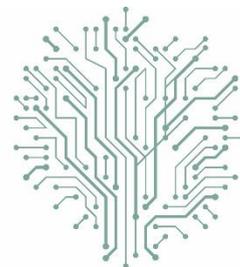
In all you meet may you see Christ, and may they see
the person of Christ in you.

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**



SALTBUSH

UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Matthew 25:31-46.
Reign of Christ

Welcome

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

Centring words: The God whose expansive love
flows through all the universe chooses also to be
revealed in the least and the humble. Come, know
God in your lives, through Christ. Amen

Responses & Gathering Prayer

Gracious and Eternal Creator, you who come in our
midst, you who share in our pain, you who
transform our lives through your abiding love and
your call to us to see you in the least, the hungry,
the poor, the imprisoned, the naked, the lost, the
grieving..... and in ourselves. Your reign
challenges and changes our world view, to be a
people who live compassionate, insightful lives.
May we be authentic in our faith, embodying the
Christ we serve. In whose name we pray, Amen.

Music for Reflection

[Immortal, Invisible God only Wise](#)

[Nathan Drake](#)

<https://nathandrake.bandcamp.com/track/immortal-invisible-2>

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 25:31-46 ³¹“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

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 who Reigns with Christ, 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 purposes, your will; 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

Song

Holy, Holy, Holy.

<https://malcolmgordon.bandcamp.com/track/holy-holy-holy>