

We give thanks for God's goodness that flows and for the eternal presence of the Holy Spirit. We give thanks for Christ who reminds us of love, community, hope, light and life.

Lord, help us and our world to hold onto light that comes out of darkness, hope that grows amongst struggle, faith that shines amongst doubt and goodness where there is pain.

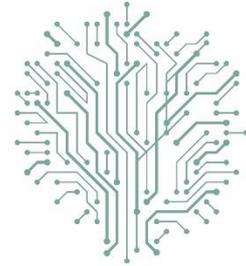
We pray together:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Closing Responses & Blessing

Go our into the world,
To love and serve the Lord.

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

Mark 6: 1-13
Pentecost 6

Welcome

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

Responses & Gathering Prayer

We come from our villages, our homes, our families and the communities we find ourselves in.

We come as people of the land, the town, the city, the office, the home, the business, the paddock, the road or the classroom.

We come as the people of God.

Lord, open our ears, our hearts, our eyes and our minds to expect you, to see your way, to know your goodness in our lives and the communities in which we live.

Come to us, once more, in our gathering and worship today. We pray.

We give thanks for those moments when we noticed you in the days past and your nearness to us. Amen.

Music for Reflection

Suggested song: Sing Hey for the Carpenter

Acknowledgment: © Iona Community

Brunswick Uniting Church

<https://soundcloud.com/user-395259634/sing-hey-for-the-carpenter>

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

Mark 6: 1-13. (Focus passage 1-6)

The Rejection of Jesus at Nazareth

6 He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. 2 On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! 3 Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. 4 Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." 5 And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. 6 And he was amazed at their unbelief.

The Mission of the Twelve

Then he went about among the villages teaching. 7 He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. 8 He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; 9 but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. 10 He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. 11 If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." 12 So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. 13 They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

The Message

From your Scattered Community Minister or another leader within your gathering.

Questions for conversation

- How open are we to God doing something unexpected?
- I wonder what you heard in the Word for our today for you and for the 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

We give thanks for God's presence within and around all life. In that presence we bring our prayer.

We pray for people who can see little goodness and hope.

We pray for ourselves where we see little goodness or hope.

[silence]

We confess where we have been people of little expectation and faithfulness.

[silence]

We pray for people throughout the world who are told that no good thing can come in life and future.

[silence]