

## Closing Responses & Blessing

In the resting and the frantic activity of the days ahead, **go before us loving God.**

In the boat and across the land as we attend to our daily tasks, **go before us loving God.**

In your healing touch that makes us well, **send us to teach and live your ways.**

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

Beatitudes:

Ponder how blessed we are to be hungry  
Ponder how blessed we are to be poor  
Ponder how blessed we are to be broken  
Ponder how blessed we are to be born  
Ponder how blessed we are to be morning  
Ponder how blessed when day is like a night  
Ponder how blessed to share Jesus' journey  
From cradle to cross then to life.

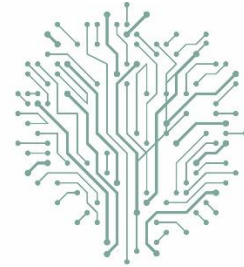
For when the healing Spirit sings  
Then it's the wounded who'll be blessed  
Then the wounded becomes a healer too  
Bringing comfort bringing rest.

Ponder how blessed we are to show mercy  
Ponder how blessed when we fashion peace  
Ponder how blessed when our sins are acknowledged  
And the breathing of God brings release.

For when the healing Spirit sings  
Then it's the wounded who'll be blessed  
Then the wounded becomes a healer too  
Bringing comfort bringing rest.  
For when the breath of heaven falls  
To blanket our earth like the dew  
Then our dry and dusty heartland  
Will grow green again renewed.

Ponder how blessed we are to be little  
Ponder a life lived simple and pure  
Ponder the washing of the feet on the Thursday  
Then the sharing of the fish on the shore.

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Saltbush Community Ministers  
1 Church of Scotland: Starters for  
Sunday. Rev Jock Stein.  
<http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/>



SALTBUSH  
UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

## Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

Mark 6: 30-34, 53-56  
Pentecost 8

### Welcome

An opportunity to welcome people to the gathering

### Responses & Gathering Prayer

We shall find you God of Jesus in the lonely places,  
quietly resting.  
We shall find you God of Jesus in a boat crossing to  
the other side, to discover that you are already there.

We shall find you God of Jesus who shepherds us with  
compassion.  
We shall find you God of Jesus as you bring healing,  
even in the slightest encounter.  
We shall find you God of Jesus as we worship this day.  
**Amen.**

### Music for Reflection

Suggested song: [Beatitudes](#)  
[Pilgrims Together](#) by [John Coleman](#) © 2009  
<https://johncoleman.bandcamp.com/track/beatitudes>

### 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: 30-34, 53-56

<sup>30</sup>The apostles returned to Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. <sup>31</sup>And he said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a lonely place, and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. <sup>32</sup>And they went away in the boat to a lonely place by themselves. <sup>33</sup>Now many saw them going, and knew them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns, and got there ahead of them. <sup>34</sup>As he went ashore he saw a great throng, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

## Healing the Sick in Gennesaret

<sup>53</sup>And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennes'aret, and moored to the shore. <sup>54</sup>And when they got out of the boat, immediately the people recognized him, <sup>55</sup>and ran about the whole neighbourhood and began to bring sick people on their pallets to any place where they heard he was. <sup>56</sup>And wherever he came, in villages, cities, or country, they laid the sick in the market places, and besought him that they might touch even the fringe of his garment; and as many as touched it were made well.

## 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?
- What might you need to put in place so that disciples are sustained for the journey ahead?
- 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

Let us ask God for rest for the weary ...

We pray for those who are sick and weighed down in body or spirit,  
for those who are overworked,  
for those who need a break,  
for those who near the end of life.  
May they know Your peace.

*Silence*

Let us ask God to guide those who are lost or perplexed ...

We pray for all who need shepherding,  
and for those who teach and guide others,  
in their work, in their home, in their voluntary service.  
May they give and receive Your peace.

*Silence*

Let us ask God to provide for the hungry ...

We pray for all who hunger and thirst,  
for relief organisations,  
for the governments of the world,  
for those who rule in our Island state.  
May they find peace, create peace, work for peace.

*Silence*

Let us ask God to open places for good news ...

We pray for people who do not know how much You love them,  
and for all who share the gospel.

*Silence*

May Your Spirit break down barriers, open hearts,  
bring peace.

Let us ask God to hear the prayers of our own minds  
and hearts ...

These and all our prayers we ask in the name of Jesus,  
1.

Amen.