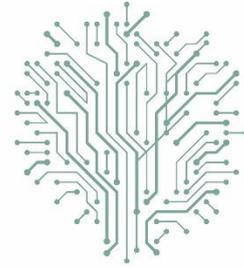


Search me O God

1. Search me O God,
and know my anxious heart.
Behind me and before me,
you lay your hand upon me.
 2. Where might I hide
to flee your tender touch?
No darkness or the ocean
hides me from your devotion.
- Chorus:
*You know my every need:
you know my thoughts, my joy my crying.
God your wisdom ways
surround me at my birth, my dying.*
3. Woven by you
deep in my mother's womb;
that moment of conception
you knew my life's direction.
 4. Search me, O God,
and purify my ways.
O teach me love surpassing,
guide me in all that's lasting.

Leigh Newton



SALTBUSH
UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

John 1:43-51
Epiphany 2: Come and See.

Welcome

[An opportunity to welcome people to the gathering](#)
We come to hear the Good News, to embody the love
of God in Christ as we share our lives with others.

Lighting of Christ Candle

Come and see for the light of the world is in our midst
and the darkness is overcome. (light the candle)

Responses & Gathering Prayer

Eternal Light,
Awaken within us:
Your love that leads us into mystery.
Your wisdom that moves us to a deeper compassion.
Your peace that surpasses all understanding.
Your hope that sustains and strengthens us.
May your reign be revealed through our actions.
May we continue to walk in your ways, in Christ.
Amen

Music for Reflection

[Search me, O God](#) Leigh Newton
(Music by Beethoven)
<https://youtu.be/AZrloocavLU>

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

John 1:43-51

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." ⁴⁹Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

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

Living God, when we hear your voices saying: "Whom shall I send and who will go for us?" And we long to answer, 'Here I am. Send me'. Give us the faith to follow you, O God.

(pause)

We hear the cry of the powerless and the suffering in the world and know you are moving towards them, Jesus Christ. Give us faith to follow you, O Christ.

(pause)

We see the destruction of your creation through pollutants that choke the oceans, the waterways and make the soil toxic. We believe you want to restore what you have called good. Give us the faith, to be co-creators with you.

(pause)

We know you are with those who are experiencing difficult days in our communities, may we be free to share our lives with them also.

(pause)

In this time of silence, we bring you prayers.

(pause)

In Christ, Amen.

(Adapted from Dorothy McRae McMahon – Echoes of our Journey)

Song:

[New Kind of Day](#): Malcolm Gordon.

<https://malcolmgordon.bandcamp.com/track/new-kind-of-day>

Closing Responses & Blessing

Come and See! Know the Living God!

The One who loves,

The One who nurtures,

The One who is Word.

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