

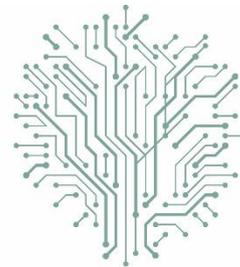
Morning has Broken

1. Morning has broken
like the first morning;
blackbird has spoken
like the first bird.
Praise for the singing,
praise for the morning,
praise for them, springing
fresh from the word.

2. Sweet the rain's new fall
sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall
on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness
of the wet garden,
sprung from completeness
where his feet pass.

3. Mine is the sunlight;
mine is the morning
born of the one light
Eden saw play.
Praise with elation,
praise every morning,
God's recreation
of the new day.

Unless otherwise indicated liturgies ©
2020 Saltbush Community Minister



SALTBUSH

UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

John 2:13-22
Lent 3: God's Temple, God's Body.

Welcome

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

God's truth is revealed in Jesus Christ the light of the world. May the light shine for the hope of the world.
(light the candle)

Responses & Gathering Prayer

Gracious God of Mystery,
The cosmos is filled with your wonder and glory, so much more than we could ever begin to comprehend. Yet you invite us to journey with you, to be alert to your presence and aware of your love.
As we walk with you, we are sometimes surprised by your actions, unsettling our comfortable expectations and shifting our settled ground. With the hope that we might grow in wisdom, love and compassion...an expression of your life, here and now through Christ.
Amen

Song:

[Jesus, Son of God and man](https://johncoleman.bandcamp.com/track/jesus-son-of-god-and-man) by John Coleman
<https://johncoleman.bandcamp.com/track/jesus-son-of-god-and-man>

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 2:13-22

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

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

Gracious God, your word and Spirit challenge our lives. When we think we have you under control and manageable, you keep up-ending the tables and cleansing our comfortable expectations of you. We pray that you continue to speak into our lives, unsettle our complacency and bring us to new life-giving ways of understanding.

(pause)

For those whose lives are given less value or respect because of gender, class, race or religion. **May we honour your life in them.**

(pause)

For all your creation, the land, the animals, the oceans that are under threat because of our insatiable need for more. **May we honour your creation as we work for renewal.**

(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, **an expression of your love in their midst.**

(pause)

In this time of silence we bring you our prayers.

(pause)

In Christ, Amen.

Song for Reflection:

[Morning has Broken](#): sung by Orla Fallon (by Elanor Farjeon)

<https://youtu.be/h5D3LEjGF8A>

Closing Responses & Blessing

Go from here, journey with the One who walks with you and calls you to a deeper truth. Go with open hearts and minds, knowing the Spirit of God is with you. And may you be voices of wisdom, your actions standing for justice and peace. In the name of Christ.

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