

Drawn from the Grass

Drawn from the grass that grows by the stream  
Blow right through me Lord  
Slow baked in the oven till we're no longer green  
Blow right through me Lord

Blow through me Lord  
Blow through me Lord

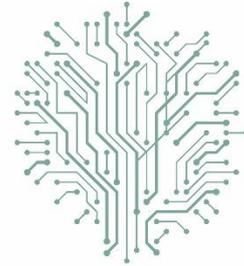
All that's not needed is trimmed right away  
Blow right through me Lord  
Sound holes are carved so the music can play  
Blow right through me Lord

You get me up in the morning and play me all day  
Blow right through me Lord  
Give me rest in the evening it's a very long day  
Blow right through me Lord

May the notes that blow through me be constant and sweet  
Blow right through me Lord  
So they lift up the hearts of the people we meet  
Blow right through me Lord  
John Coleman

May the Feet of God

May the feet of God walk with you and his hand hold you tight.  
May the eye of God rest on you and his ear hear your cry.  
May the smile of God be for you and his breath give you life.  
May the Child of God grow in you, and his love bring you home.  
Robin Mann and Dorothy Mann



SALTBUSH  
UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

## Simple worship for the scattered Christian community

John 15:1-8  
I Abide in You

### 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

Ever-present Creator,  
You know us and you tend our lives  
**You abide in us**  
You have us shown the depth of your love in Jesus  
**You abide in us**  
Your love empowers us, your mercy forgives  
**You abide in us**  
You prune what is unhealthy, allowing the fruit of our lives to grow.  
**You abide in us**  
In Christ we give you thanks, Amen.

### Song:

[Drawn from the Grass.](https://johncoleman.bandcamp.com/track/drawn-from-the-grass) John Coleman  
<https://johncoleman.bandcamp.com/track/drawn-from-the-grass>

### 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 15:1-8

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

## 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

Merciful Creator, as you nurture our lives and grow us in your ways of wisdom and understanding through your Spirit and in the person of Jesus Christ, may we be always open to your leading and receptive of your grace. May our lives bear the fruit for ourselves, others and all creation.

(pause)

For those who are powerless and weighed down by the injustices they experience each day as they are judged by race, class and religion. **May the injustices be pruned and your love bear fruit.**

(pause)

For the planet and all living things that fight for survival against the insatiable plunder of human excess. **May our greed be pruned and your renewal bear fruit.**

(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. **May our hardness of heart be pruned and your compassion bear fruit.**

(pause)

In this time of silence we bring you our prayers.

(pause)

In Christ, Amen.

## Song for Reflection:

[May the feet of God walk with you.](#) Robyn Mann and Dorothy Mann

<https://youtu.be/WfOFIWxGaP8>

## Closing Responses & Blessing

Go from here, journey with the Vinegrower who walks with you and calls you to a deeper truth.

Go with open hearts and minds, knowing the Spirit of God abides in you.

And may you be voices of wisdom, your actions standing for justice and peace, bearers of fruit for a hungry world.

In the name of the One who abides in us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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