

Because We Bear Your Name

1. Lord Jesus we belong to you,
you live in us, we live in you;
we live and work for you -

Because we bear your name.

2. Help us receive each other, Lord,
for you receive the least of us
and come to us in them -

3. Bless those who give us any gift,
because they know that we are yours;
reward them with your grace -

4. Let us acknowledge those as friends
who use your name to right a wrong
but have not joined us yet -

5. Let nothing that we do or say
offend the weak so that they fall
and lose their faith in you -

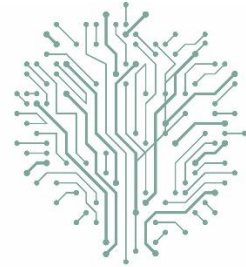
6. Keep us from missing out on life;
give hands that help, and single sight,
and feet that walk your way -

7. You are the salt that cleanses us,
so clean us out, and make us fit
for common life with you -

Because we bear your name.

Words: John Kleinig Music: Robin Mann © 1985

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2025 Saltbush Community Minister



SALT BUSH

UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Matthew 11:2-11
Is Jesus the One?

For Saltbush Communion go to:

<https://vimeo.com/582800387>

Acknowledgment to Country

We acknowledge the First Nations people of the (name of lands you are on) and pay our respects to elders, past, present and emerging.

Welcome

Grace, hope and peace, in the name of God the Eternal presence, the Christ and the Holy Spirit.

Responses & Gathering Prayer

Loving God, eternal presence, you call us deeper into relationship with you through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. You journey alongside us, inviting us to ask searching questions, to explore what it means to be your children, what it means to be fully human, loved and loving.

You answer us, through the person of Jesus, the movement of the Holy Spirit. You reveal to us your love, compassion, grace and mercy.

We give you our praise and thanks this day, as we continue to live in your holy embrace. Amen

Song

[Because We bear Your Name](#) by John Kleinig and Robin Mann

<https://robinmann.bandcamp.com/track/because-we-bear-your-name>

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

Matthew 11:2-11.

²When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" ⁴Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' ¹¹Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

The Message

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

Questions for conversation

- When has your understanding of the nature of faith been challenged? When has your understanding of the nature of Jesus been challenged?
- How is your Christian Community exploring the struggles of what it means to be a people of faith?

Silence

Spend some time in silence sitting still (suggested 5 minutes). Close your eyes lightly. Sit relaxed but alert. Don't worry too much if your mind is filled with other thoughts, allow them to drift away like a feather on the wind.

Prayers for Others

Eternal Presence, Creator God, dwell deeply within us that we would know your truth, your love, your hope, your reign in our lives.

That our own lives reflect you and your hopes; refreshing relationships, communities and your creation.

As you dwell within us Holy Presence may we know the sacred life you call us to, that we are made in your image and we acknowledge your image in all we meet. At this time we bring you our prayers.

Gracious God we open ourselves in prayer for: *[Silence for personal prayer or invite others to open prayer in between each]*

Your creation ...

For others we have heard about throughout our world..

For other people we know and are close to ...

For our church and our wider community ...

For ourselves ...

Loving God, we bring you our prayer, in Jesus name.

Amen

Music for Reflection:

[Pilgrims Together](#) by John Coleman

<https://johncoleman.bandcamp.com/track/pilgrims-together>

Closing Responses & Blessing

Go in faith as images of the Living God! And may God, the eternal loving presence walk alongside you. God in Christ be your constant guide. The Holy Spirit nurture, encourage and lead you to truth.

In the name of God the Creator, God the Saviour and God the Spirit Holiness. Amen