

Leader: Welcome to Holy Hermits Online Worship  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany  
Today, we remember Holy Hermit  
Macarius of Egypt

Service Prep: Kristine

Music: Wiggles

Proof-reader: Viki

Broadcaster: Lauren

Backup Broadcaster: Barry

Zoom Buttons: Viki

Chat Host: Viki

Welcomer: Chris

Priest: N/A

Deacon: Lauren

Leader: Jeremy

Cantor: Roselyn

First Reader: Phil

Second Reader: Bob

Preacher: Lauren

Fellowship: Julie

Safety Officer: Chris

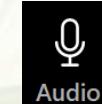
Attendance: Viki

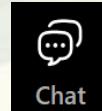
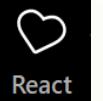
# Hospitality

Leader:

Please mute  for the service unless invited to offer your voice as part of the service ministry

Have the video camera  on or off and turn the volume and brightness up or down on your device if things are too loud   or too bright  

Our Cantor acts as our voice,  offering the responses, in **Bold Text**, which we say together

Feel welcome to use the chat  and reaction emojis  

 Please take care of yourself in this space.  Come and go as you need 

 It is great to take rest in this space, so falling asleep is also OK 

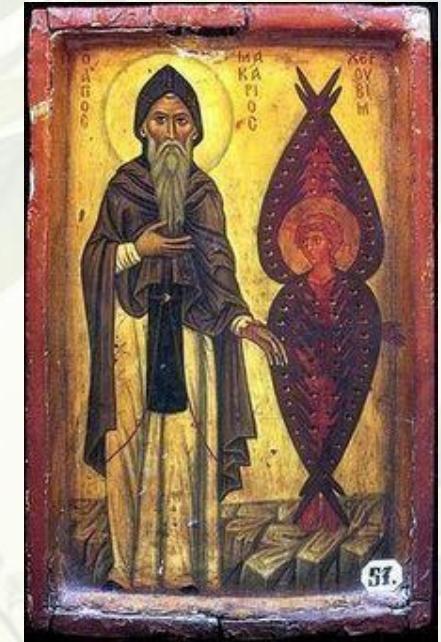
 Remember, pastoral care is available to all in the community, if you'd like to speak to someone about anything spiritual.  Visit the [help page](#) at the website to reach out 

Our Being Together ethos and safeguarding practices can also be accessed on the website 

 Come as you are - we are all here together! 

## Leader: Our Holy Hermit Highlights for today

Macarius of Egypt (c. 295-392 A.D.), known as Macarius the Great, was a pioneering Desert Father whose teachings shaped early Christian asceticism and monasticism. After the death of his wife, he withdrew around age thirty to the desert of Scete, where he lived as a hermit for the next fifty years and was ordained a priest about a decade into his solitude. His profound spiritual insight, homilies, and guidance attracted many disciples among the growing monastic communities. Macarius was also revered for his healing and prophetic gifts. A noted story recounts his compassionate response to a pagan priest, whose respect for Macarius's kindness led him to embrace Christianity and become an exemplary monk.



Read more about  
Macarius of Egypt  
please click the  
link on the send  
out

# *Invitation*

**Leader:** As we settle into worship let your breath be soft, your mind be still, and your heart be open to the presence of God.

## **Opening Organ Music:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U6k3Z0CBKAc>

Leader and Cantor unmute

## The Greeting

Leader:

The Grace of the lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with you all.

All: And also with you.

## Gathering Prayer

**Leader:** Let us worship the God who gives,  
who fills our lives with the beauty of creation,  
who offers comfort and counsel to humanity,  
while demanding nothing  
but that we share in filling the world with kindness and justice.

**All:** God, you call us to walk with you in justice, in kindness, in humility.  
Help us to see this is what you require,  
to leave behind all other expectations  
and be free to walk into the future you want for us as the people of God.  
Amen.

## Sentence

**Leader:** I invite our Cantor to proclaim the sentence for today.

**Cantor:**

What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

**Micah 6.8**

## Prayer of Approach

**Leader:** We pray the prayer of approach together

**All:** Righteous God,

as your light shines upon us,

we pledge to be a light to one another and to others.

We pledge to pray for one another and for others.

We pledge to listen to one another and to others.

We pledge to draw closer to one another and to others.

In your name, in your strength and to your glory.

Amen.

# Our First Hymn is Blessed Assurance

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1WQdwkCdXpU>

We stay on mute  
Leader and Cantor mute

## *The Deacon or LA Introduces Confession*

Christ the Son of God has been revealed as a light to the nations.

*Silence may be kept...*

Let us bring our darkness to his light, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

All: Merciful God, our maker and our judge,  
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,  
and in what we have failed to do:

we have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;  
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.

Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you  
in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

## *Words of Assurance offered by the Deacon or LA*

These words of assurance from the First Letter of John declare that:

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the perfect offering for our sin, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world.

(1 John 2: 1-2)

In this is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the perfect offering for our sins.

(1 John 4:10)

## Collect

Leader: Righteous God,  
you confound the world's wisdom  
by giving your blessing to the lowly and pure in heart:  
give us such a hunger and thirst for justice  
and perseverance in striving for peace,  
that in our words and deeds  
the world may see the promise of your kingdom,  
which has been revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen

The 1st reader unmutes

Leader: I invite the 1st reader to unmute and offer the 1st lesson when ready.

Reader 1: The 1<sup>st</sup> Reading is from Micah 6.1-8

**1** Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

**2** Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD ,

and you enduring foundations of the earth;  
for the LORD has a controversy with his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

**3** 'O my people, what have I done to you?

In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

*Continues...*

**4** For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;  
and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.

**5** O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,  
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD .'

**6** 'With what shall I come before the LORD ,  
and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings,  
with calves a year old?

*Continues...*

**7** Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with tens of thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?'

**8** He has told you, O mortal, what is good;  
and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

For the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

**Leader:** We now say the psalm antiphonally, I invite the first reader to lead, and we will all respond with our cantor as our voice.

## Psalm 15

**1** Lord, who may abide in your tabernacle:  
or who may dwell upon your holy hill?

**2** **Whoever leads an uncorrupt life  
and does the thing which is right:  
who speaks the truth from the heart,  
and has not slandered with the tongue;**

**3** Who has done no evil to a friend:  
nor vented abuse against a neighbour;

*Continues...*

**4 In whose eyes the worthless have no honour:  
but who makes much of those that fear the Lord;**

**5 Whoever has sworn to a neighbour:  
and will not go back on that oath;**

**6 Who has not put money to usury:  
nor taken a bribe against the innocent.**

**7 Whoever does these things:  
shall never be overthrown.**

## The 2nd reader unmutes

**Leader:** Thank you, I invite the 2nd reader to unmute and offer the 2nd lesson when ready.

**Reader 2:** The 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading is from 1 Corinthians 1.18-31

**18** For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

**19** For it is written,

'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.'

**20** Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age?  
Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

**21** For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe.

*Continues...*

**22** For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom,

**23** but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,

**24** but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

**25** For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

**26** Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.

*Continues...*

**27** But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong;

**28** God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are,

**29** so that no one might boast in the presence of God.

**30** He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption,

**31** in order that, as it is written, 'Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.'

For the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



We pause before  
the Gospel

**The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew Chapter 5 beginning at the 1<sup>st</sup> verse. All: Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

**1** When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. **2** Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: **3** 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. **4** 'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. **5** 'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. **6** 'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. **7** 'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. **8** 'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. **9** 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. **10** 'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. **11** 'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. **12** Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

**This is the gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

A still life arrangement on a wooden surface. In the center is an open book with aged, yellowish pages. To the left of the book is a clear glass vase filled with water and holding a bouquet of flowers, including red and pink hydrangeas and yellow roses. To the right of the book is a tall, thin pillar candle in a gold-colored holder, with a smaller, wider pillar candle standing next to it. The background is dark, with a window visible in the distance, letting in a soft, warm light.

We pause  
after the Gospel

Leader: The Sermon is recorded to YouTube for sharing later.

Only the preacher's video and audio will be recorded.

The chat and other participants' feeds remain out of sight of the recording.

- Leader and Cantor mute
- Broadcaster exits screenshare
- Preacher unmutes
- Zoom buttons "pins" preacher's screen + selects "record to the cloud"

# Sermon

Leader unmutes

Our next Hymn is

**Blessed Are You**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K0pQpkCjv4o>

We stay on mute

Leader mutes

The Leader and Cantor unmute

## *The Greeting of Peace*

**Leader:** We are the body of Christ

**All:** God's Spirit is with us

**Leader:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All:** And also with you.

**Leader:** A sign of peace may be exchanged

You may like to type 'Peace' into the chat, use the 'raise hand' or other reaction buttons, or just simply wave via the screen with your video turned on

(Broadcaster exits shared screen for a few moments for the exchange of peace)

**Leader:** As we enter prayer, I invite the second reader to unmute to lead our intercessions which follow the prayer of thanksgiving. Please feel free to change your body position as you need.

# Prayer of Thanksgiving before Intercessions

Leader:

Eternal God,

with love in our hearts, we adore you.

With the whole of the Church, we worship you.

With all we are and all we have

we will nurture your gifts of kindness, justice and humility,

and follow, serve and live for you today and every day.

Amen.

## Intercessions

Reader 2: We pray for creation and communities we share our lives with. We pause for a few moments to name either in our hearts, or out loud, or in the chat, those environments and communities we bring to the Lord in prayer.

PAUSE...

We entrust to you the community of Holy Hermits Online and our ministry partners:

St John's Cathedral Brisbane

The Anglican Diocese of Southern Queensland

St Gabriel's, Carindale

Benedictus Contemplative Church, Canberra

Anglican Focus and

Tithe.ly

Prosper the work of our hands and show us the way to your new creation.

Creator God, Hear our prayer.

**Reader 2:** Loving Creator, we entrust to you all animals, especially those who are sick, anxious, ageing, lost, at risk, lonely, sad, hungry, in pain, homeless, abused, living in fear, encountering violence of any kind, in need of comfort, rehabilitation or transformation.

We invite your loving compassion for:

Jasmine,  
Leese(y),  
Sid, Toots & Lulu  
Polly and Suki  
Fred, George & Percy  
Koshka  
Jax

Lambert  
Kala, Nigel & Little One  
Toby  
Taco  
Paddy  
Rosie



We name in our hearts, out loud or in the chat,  
the animals we bring to the Lord in prayer. **PAUSE...**

Reader 2: Eternal Trinity of Love, we uphold to you the people we love and carry  
cares for:

Kerry, Les & Jake	Barry	Bill & Marjorie	Kirsten, Greg,
Julie, Ray, Tracey &	Dr Julie	Aaron & Andrea	Daphne & Beau
Shane	Ruth	Dilys & Tony,	Alan & Gaylene
Mark, Desley & Bob	Phil	Paul & Darhon	Jess & Leah
Rachel, Mervyn & Gillian	May	Judy & Mary	Bonnie & girls
Rev'd Shane & Janette	Susan	Bob & Di	Liz's Godchildren
Alecia, Martin & Aidan	Tanya	Pat & Julie	Barry & Gwen
Steven & Vanessa	Craig	Miriam	Matthew & Nicholas
	Neva	Gayanne	

We name in our hearts, out loud or in the chat, those we bring to the Lord in  
prayer. PAUSE... We entrust to you those who have died, those who have died  
peacefully and those who have died tragically, The old and the young. Receive  
them into your Kingdom. Lord in your mercy, Hear our prayers. Amen.

# Pray Daily Cycle of Prayer

**Leader:** Loving God, joining with the Church in our cycle of prayer, we ask your blessings on:

- The Church of England
- The ongoing work of peace-making in Sudan & South Sudan •
- The Anglican Church of Australia: The Primate - tMark; The General Secretary - Anne; The General Synod and the Standing Committee
- The Parish of Maleny: Ingrid, Kaye
- Director of Clergy Development and Training: Michael
- Anglican Schools Office, Church House: A/g Executive Director - Geoff, Executive Director & staff

## *Commitment prayer for the week: Companion Animals*

God, we give thanks for your call to develop a Companion Animal Ministry at Holy Hermits Online.

We ask for your grace to guide us, as we build this ministry together.

Holy Spirit we ask your presence to be with us as we continue to develop resources together in this new season.

Provide us with wisdom and with compassion and with a sense of fun as we celebrate our companion animals and live this mission to outreach.

Alongside Holy Hermit St. Francis, we ask you Lord Jesus Christ, to enliven us in this ministry space.

Amen .

Leader: Let us pray together the prayer which Jesus gave us saying:

**All:** Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.

# Devotions

## Hermit Wisdom



## Leader: Macarius of Egypt

- 'If you rebuke someone and do it with anger, you have allowed a passion to control you. You have not saved anyone and have destroyed yourself'.
- 'How easy it is to say with every breath, "My Lord Jesus, have mercy upon me. I bless you, my Lord Jesus Christ. Help me"'.

**Leader:** As we enter a few minutes of silence together, you are invited to pray this prayer of adoration and/or spend this time in contemplation.

The Spiritual Communion prayer follows on the next slide. Let us be still.

**Leader and Cantor Mute.**

Inspirational God,  
you show us the true meaning of fellowship and  
faithfulness.

We rejoice at your presence with us and reassurance.  
As Father, you require us to bring justice to your world:  
no more, no less.

As Son, you require us to learn from Jesus to love  
kindness: no more, no less.

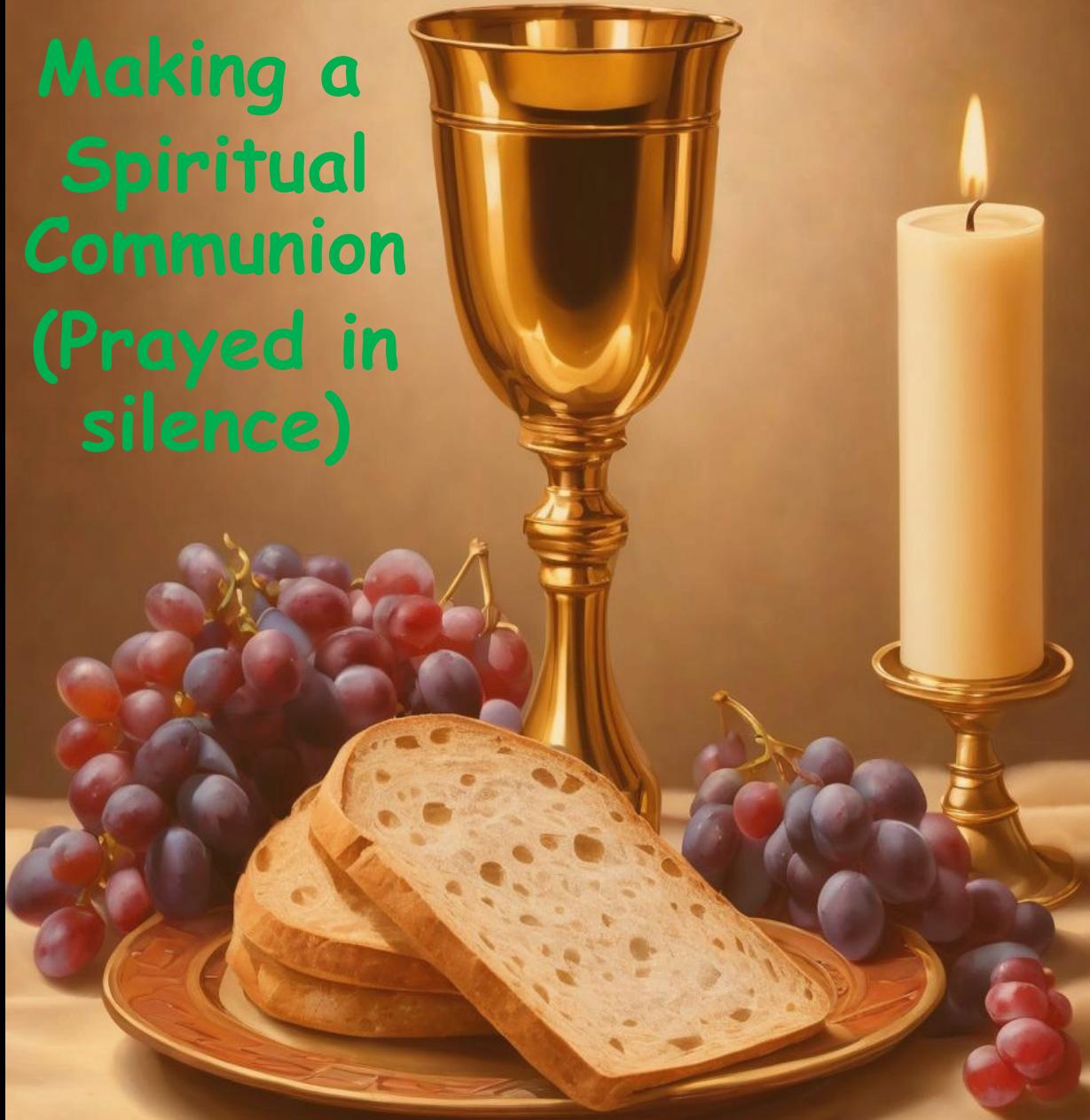
As Holy Spirit, you require us to walk humbly with you:  
no more, no less.

Amen.



Oh, my Lord Jesus I turn to you  
present at the Altar and in the Tabernacle. I  
believe that you are present in the Holy  
Sacrament of your most Sacred Body and Blood.  
I love you above all things and I desire to  
receive you into my Soul. I cannot at this  
moment receive you Sacramentally in Holy  
Communion. Come spiritually into my heart. Purify  
it, Sanctify it. Render my heart like your own  
heart. I embrace you as if you were already  
there and unite myself wholly with you. Never  
permit me to be separated from you. Lord, I am  
not worthy to receive you, but only say the word  
and I shall be healed. Amen

## Making a Spiritual Communion (Prayed in silence)



Leader unmutes

Our final song is

Rejoice

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dCBGxDyYkpM>

We stay on mute

Leader and Cantor mute

Leader and cantor unmute

## Sending Prayer

Leader: We pray our sending prayer together.

All: O God, what do you require of us?

Do you require us to be the best and do the most?

No.

Do you require us to turn our hearts to you and  
live with justice, kindness and humility?

Yes.

Give us what we need to adopt the beautiful attitudes  
you want for your people.

Amen.

## The Benediction

**Leader:** Let us all invite God's blessings together,

**All:** May the Lord bless us and keep us.

May the Lord's face shine upon us and be gracious to us.

May the Lord's countenance be lifted upon us,

and bring us peace. Amen

# Notices

- At 11.30am today we have our first workshop of the year, our Companion Animal Workshop, all are welcome
- Rev'd Canon Jess will be leading a Lenten study for 6 weeks, more information to come
- See HHO Events page for further upcoming events [HHO Events](#) especially at the Cathedral online

Leader: Thank you for your regular gifts to this ministry. Offerings are most welcome via:

- The HHO App
- Direct Debit
- International Direct Debit
- Please consider a one-off donation or leaving a legacy in your Will

For further information go to HHO give page

<https://holyhermits.com.au/give>



Serving next week  
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February  
9:00 am AEST

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Proof-reader: Chris

Broadcaster: Kieron

Backup Broadcaster: Lauren

Zoom Buttons: Viki

Chat Host: Rachel

Welcomer: Julie

Priest: N/A

Deacon: Lauren

Leader: Lauren

Cantor: Jeremy

First Reader: Liz

Second Reader: Margo

Preacher: Lauren

Fellowship: Leonie

Safety Officer: Leonie

Attendance: Rachel

Thank you for your ministry gifts

New Servers always welcome!

Please email Rev'd Lauren to get involved  
[holyhermits@anglicanchurchsq.org.au](mailto:holyhermits@anglicanchurchsq.org.au)

**Leader:** I invite everyone to unmute for the Dismissal

**Leader:** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All:** In the name of Christ, Amen.

# Fellowship time

Thank you, Julie for  
leading Fellowship

Please feel welcome to  
linger or pop a message in  
the chat and head off  
when you are ready.

Extra resources developed  
by Roots on the Web



Artwork by Padlet: Blessed  
are the meek...