

START FROM WHERE YOU ARE

I see you sitting in your room
You're thinking: what kind of world is this?
Peace is like the stars - seems so far away.

Why don't you start from where you are, do what you can do.

There's a whole lot of changes that can only start from you.

You may be only small, of everyone the least
But yours could be the milligram that tips the scales to peace

And yours could be the all-important patch of ground
Where first we gained a foothold and turned the world around.

I know the news is mostly bad -
This world it seems a sad old place.
Peace is on the run - are we in a losing race?

Why don't you start from where you are, do what you can do.

The most important changes have started with a few.
If you use the skills you have, hope will find release.
If you join your hope to others' hope the movement will increase

All round the world there's people choosing to believe

That peace might just be possible - you don't have to naive.

Why don't you start from where you are
Do what you can do today.

You hear a million words a day -
They're selling you the same old lie.
But peace is like the pearl money cannot buy.

Why don't you start from where you are, do what you can do.

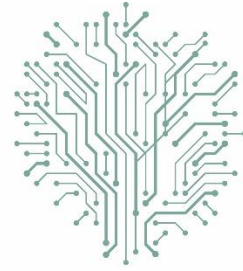
There's a different way of thinking, very old but ever new:

Share the things we have, love our enemy
Yes, calling from the centre, the God of life decrees
The little child is more important than the king
And until we start to act that way we're just dangling from a string.

Why don't we start from where we are
Do what we can do today.

Words and music by Peter Kearney

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2026 Saltbush Community Minister



SALTBUSH

UNITING THE SCATTERED COMMUNITY

Matthew 10:24-39
The Cost of Discipleship

For Saltbush Communion go to:

<https://vimeo.com/582800387>

Acknowledgement and Welcome

As we gather, we acknowledge the (name of First nations people) who have cared for this land since time immemorial. We pay our respects to elders' past, present and emerging.

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

Responses & Gathering Prayer

Holy one, come to us now. Be made present to us in our lives, in the ordinary, in the profound, in our joys and in our challenges. Speak into our lives with your eternal wisdom, give us courage to speak out against injustice and to remain silent when we need to listen. Gracious Companion, you are the core of our being the very ground of our existence. May our lives be honest expressions of your love, our actions clear movements of your purposes and our journey yoked with Christ. Amen.

Song

[Start from Where you Are](https://peterkearney.bandcamp.com/track/40-start-from-where-you-are) by Peter Kearney.
<https://peterkearney.bandcamp.com/track/40-start-from-where-you-are>

Passing the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The Word around the Bush

Matthew 10:24-39

“A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! “So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. “Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

The Message

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

Questions for conversation

- What does carrying your cross mean to you?
- What challenges have you faced as you shared compassion, mercy, grace and peace, in Christ’s name, with others?
- What challenges has your church faced?

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

O God, as we gather, we come bearing joys and sorrows.

Send your Spirit of Peace amongst us.

Today we pray for all people who live in the pain and destruction of war.

Send your Spirit of Peace amongst places of war.

Today we pray for all people who seek asylum and refuge, for the displaced and marginalized. May they find welcome and home.

Send your Spirit of Peace amongst places of refuge.

Today we pray for all people who suffer in silence: the sick, the abused, the ignored. May they find restoration.

Send your Spirit of Peace amongst places of suffering.

Today, O God, we pray for our community as we seek to be a people sent in peace.

Grant us wholeness as we go your way.

Send your Spirit of Peace amongst us here in this place. Amen.

Music for Reflection:

[Pilgrims Together](https://johncolemans.bandcamp.com/track/pilgrims-together) by John Coleman

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

Closing Responses & Blessing

The Lord of the harvest sends us out to offer peace and to embody the Kingdom of God.

Go in Peace, to love and serve.

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

(*prayers from Words for Worship: MediaCom Publications)