

The Eucharist for Creationtide 2020 13 September

The Greeting

In the name of God, Creator, Sustainer and Redeemer
Amen.

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Prayer of Preparation: A prayer of sadness

**God, our hearts are filled with joy to be able to return to this place.
Yet, our Church is incomplete, not all of our brothers and sisters here.
Hold all those still at home in your loving arms; protect them from all harm;
bring comfort to the mourning or frightened, and healing to the sick.
In Jesus' name,
Amen.**

In a moment of silence we hold before God those members of our community for whom this time is still so difficult.

Prayers of Penitence

God's whole creation groans.
The land produces thorns and thistle
and longs to be set free.
Our sin affects all around us.
We confess our sins in penitence and faith.

**Creator God,
we confess that we have not honoured and obeyed you.
We have broken our relationships with one another,
abused your fragile creation,
wounded your love and marred your holy image in us.
We are sorry and ashamed and repent of all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Lead us from apathy to love.
Strengthen us as stewards of your precious people
and of your glorious creation,**

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ
has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed:
forgive you your sins,
open your eyes to God's truth,
strengthen you to do God's will
and give you the joy of his kingdom
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Collect

Let us pray.

Almighty God,
whose only Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your presence:
give us pure hearts and steadfast wills
to worship you in spirit and in truth;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Reading

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *Matthew*.

Glory to you, O Lord.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Creed

We say together in faith:

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,
who was and is and is to come.**

**We believe in God the Father, who created all things:
for by his will they were created and have their being.**

**We believe in God the Son who was slain,
for with his blood he purchased us for God
from every tribe and language,
from every people and nation.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit.
The Spirit and the Bride say 'Come'.**

Even so, come Lord Jesus!

Amen.

Prayers of Intercession for the Earth based on the five marks of mission

To Strive...

God, creator of the universe,
Fill us with your love for the creation,
for the natural world around us,
for the earth from which we come
and to which we will return.
Awake in us energy to work for your world;
let us never fall into complacency, ignorance,
or being overwhelmed by the task before us.
Help us to restore, remake, renew. Amen

To Safeguard

Jesus, Redeemer of the World,
Remind us to consider the lost lilies,
the disappearing sparrows;
teach us not to squander precious resources;
help us value habitats:
seas, deserts, forests and seek to preserve this world in its diversity.
Alert us to the cause of all living creatures
destroyed wantonly for human greed or pleasure;
Help us to value what we have left
and to learn to live without taking more than we give. Amen

Integrity of Creation

Spirit of the Living God
At the beginning you moved over the face of the waters.
You brought life into being, the teeming life
that finds its way through earth and sea and air,
that makes its home around us, everywhere.
You know how living things flourish and grow
How they co-exist; how they feed and breed and change
Help us to understand those delicate relationships,
value them, and keep them from destruction. Amen

To Sustain...

God, of the living earth
You have called people to care for your world –
you asked Noah to save creatures from destruction.
May we now understand how to sustain your world –
Not over-fishing, not over-hunting,
Not destroying trees, precious rainforest
Not farming soil into useless dust.

Help us to find ways to use resources wisely
to find a path to good, sustainable living
in peace and harmony with creatures around us. Amen

To Renew

Jesus, who raised the dead to life
Help us to find ways to renew
what we have broken, damaged and destroyed:
Where we have taken too much water,
polluted the air, poured plastic into the sea,
cut down the forests and soured fertile soils.
Help all those who work to find solutions to
damage and decay; give hope to those
who are today working for a greener future. Amen

*Anne Richards, Mission Theology Advisory Group,
The Dispossession Project: Eco-House
Resources available on www.ctbi.org.uk*

The Peace

God has called us to live in peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Preparation of the Table

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

**All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, Lord God, our light and our salvation,
to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the beginning you have created all things
and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.

In the fullness of time you made us in your image,
the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels
and all the powers of heaven
we may find a voice to sing your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,
you embraced a people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled
your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour,
born of Mary, to be the living bread,
in whom all our hungers are satisfied.

He offered his life for sinners,
and with a love stronger than death
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died,
he came to supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.
He broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:
**Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

Father, we plead with confidence
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;
we remember his dying and rising in glory,
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you
these gifts of your creation;
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,
form us in the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Remember, Lord, your Church in every land.
Reveal her unity, guard her faith, and preserve her in peace.

Bring us at the last with Peter, John the Divine and all the saints
to the vision of that eternal splendour
for which you have created us;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
by whom, with whom, and in whom,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

**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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread

to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God

who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

The body and blood of Christ.

Amen.

Communion is administered without words.

[Spiritual Communion

Those who are at home are invited to say one or both of these prayers:

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits you have given me,
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.
after the Prayer of St Richard of Chichester

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples,
'I am with you always'.
Be with me today, as I offer myself to you.
Hear my prayers for others and for myself,
and keep me in your care. Amen.]

Lord of all creation,
as we have received the bread and wine,
fruits of the earth and tokens of salvation,
so with joy we celebrate your goodness
and commit ourselves to serve you on your earth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Prayer after Communion: A prayer of hope

**Gracious God, persevering through the years, persevering to the end,
as we face the future as a community of your people in this place,
may we know afresh your faithful love,
and see afresh your loving faithfulness.
May it be your words of life for which we listen,
and by which alone we live.
God before and God behind, for all that has been – thanks.
For all that will be – Yes! Amen.**

The Dismissal

May God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the source of all goodness and growth,
pour his blessing upon all things created,
and upon you his children,
that you may use his gifts to his glory
and the welfare of all peoples;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

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