

*St Mark's, Newnham  
St Andrew & St Mary's, Grantchester*



# **Morning Worship in the Season of Creation**

*For use during the Covid 19 pandemic,  
at home or online, September 2020*

## Season of Creation 2020 Prayer

Creator of Life,

At Your word, the Earth brought forth plants yielding seed and trees of every kind bearing fruit. The rivers, mountains, minerals, seas and forests sustained life. The eyes of all looked to You to satisfy the needs of every living thing. And throughout time the Earth has sustained life. Through the planetary cycles of days and seasons, renewal and growth, you open your hand to give creatures our food in the proper time.

In your Wisdom, you granted a sabbath; a blessed time to rest in gratitude for all that you have given; a time to liberate ourselves from vicious consumption; a time to allow the land and all creatures to rest from the burden of production. But these days our living pushes the planet beyond its limits. Our demands for growth, and our never-ending cycle of production and consumption are exhausting our world. The forests are leached, the topsoil erodes, the fields fail, the deserts advance, the seas acidify, the storms intensify. We have not allowed the land to observe her Sabbath, and the Earth is struggling to be renewed.

During this Season of Creation, we ask you to grant us courage to observe a Sabbath for our planet. Strengthen us with the faith to trust in your providence. Inspire us with the creativity to share what we have been given. Teach us to be satisfied with enough. And as we proclaim a Jubilee for the earth, send Your Holy Spirit to renew the face of creation. In the name of the One who came to proclaim good news to all creation, Jesus.

Amen.

*Material in this service, including the prayer above, comes from [www.churchofengland.org/more/policy-and-thinking/our-views/environment-and-climate-change/season-creation](http://www.churchofengland.org/more/policy-and-thinking/our-views/environment-and-climate-change/season-creation) and has been written for this season by an ecumenical team of Christians from around the world  
and from*

*Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England (2000), and New Patterns for Worship, material from which are included here, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2002 and published by Church House Publishing.*

## Welcome & notices

### Opening Sentences

We gather in the image of the Creator

*All* **who is a community of love.**

We gather in the name of the Redeemer

*All* **who reconciles all of creation.**

We gather in the presence of the Life Giver

*All* **who inspires new life and renews it.**

### Hymn

### Confession & Absolution

We acknowledge that human sin disfigures the whole creation, which groans with eager longing for God's redemption. We confess our sin in penitence and faith.

You delight in creation, its colour and diversity;  
yet we have misused the earth  
and plundered its resources for our own selfish ends.

Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

You have brought order out of chaos,  
light in darkness, good out of evil,  
but we have preferred darkness  
in words and deeds which dishonour God's holy name.

Christ, have mercy.

*All* **Christ, have mercy.**

You have showered us with blessings,  
but we have been grudging towards others  
and lacking in generosity in word and deed.

Lord, have mercy.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

*Hear and receive these words of God's forgiveness*

May God who loved the world so much  
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour, forgive us our sins  
and make us holy to serve him in the world,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Bible Reading(s)**

*This response is used at the end of each reading*

This is the word of the Lord

**All Thanks be to God**

*There may be a hymn or a psalm between the readings*

## **Sermon**

## **The Creed**

**All We believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;**

he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## Prayers of intercession

**The Collect**      *the prayer of the day is prayed*

## The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray  
*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.  
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## Hymn

## **Peace**

*The Minister introduces the peace with suitable words, followed by*

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

## **Blessing**

*The leader uses this or another suitable blessing*

May God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who is 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 creation, and the blessing ...  
*All* **Amen.**

## **We are sent out**

Tend the earth, care for God's good creation,  
and bring forth the fruits of righteousness.

Go in the peace of Christ.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**