



CARING FOR CREATION SUNDAY CHORAL EUCHARIST 9.30AM SEPTEMBER 24TH 2023

THE GATHERING IN THE SOUTH GARDEN

The service begins in the South Garden where the Vicar will welcome the congregation.

THE GREETING

We gather in praise of the God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

BLESSING OF THE BUG MINSTER

Members of our Children's Church cut the ribbon. Then the Vicar pronounces a blessing:

God said, 'let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind'.

Heavenly Father, we rejoice in the variety of animal life.

Grant us grace to treat all animals with respect and care;

To preserve the diversity of habitats

And to honour the delicate balance of nature.

May this Bug Minster be home to a rich variety of insects

And enhance the natural beauty of this sacred garden;

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

263 All creatures of our God and King (omit verses 5 and 6)

The choir will lead us into church via the South Door.

PRAYER OF PENITENCE

Let us repent of the ways in which we have damaged God's good creation:

Creator God, maker of heaven and earth,

we acknowledge our failure to live responsibly as part of your creation.

We have taken what we want, without considering the consequences;

**we have wasted and discarded, without thought for the future.
Open our hearts and minds to the signs of our times,
to the groaning of creation,
so that we may turn from our greed and lack of vision
and see a world being made anew in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May the Father of all mercies cleanse you from your sins,
and restore you in his image to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE 'SWITCH-ON' ANTHEM

The new lights are switched on during the following anthem:

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth;
and the earth was without form and void;
and darkness was upon the face of the deep.
And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters;
and God said: Let there be light; and there was light.
And God saw the light, that it was good;
and God divided the light from the darkness.

Genesis 1.1-4

The Creation – Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

COLLECT

Glorious God, the whole creation proclaims your marvellous work:
increase in us a capacity to wonder and delight in it,
that heaven's praise may echo in our hearts
and our lives be spent as good stewards of the earth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

READING

1 Timothy 6.6-10, 17-19

Yet true godliness with contentment is itself great wealth. After all, we brought nothing with us when we came into the world, and we can't take anything with us when we leave it. So if we have enough food and clothing, let us be content. But people who long to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many foolish and harmful desires that plunge them into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows.

Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment. Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others. By doing this they will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may experience true life.

For the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

GRADUAL HYMN

265 Lord of beauty, thine the splendour

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 6.25-34

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

'So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ.

TALK

The Vicar will put a series of questions to our guest speaker, Sarah Wiggins, Climate Advocacy Global Programme Lead for Tearfund.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in a bright and glorious God
who summons light to shine out of darkness,
who shapes the universe in love.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,
who is the radiant image of the invisible God,
who heals us with joy and with power.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who nurtures in us the treasure of God's glory,
who gives us wisdom and hope.**

**We believe God calls us;
to share our treasure, to seek justice and to resist evil,
to speak out the truth of the Gospel,
and to let ourselves be renewed in love.
Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Led by members of our Eco Church Working Group, using the following response:

God of life:
Hear our prayer.

THE PEACE

You shall go out in joy and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Isaiah 55.12

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN

285 For the beauty of the earth

During which a collection is taken for the Libya Floods Emergency Appeal

PRAYER AT THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

Blessed be God,
By whose grace creation is renewed,

By whose love heaven is opened,
By whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.

Blessed be God for ever.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

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.

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;
in your love you made us for yourself.

When we turned away

you did not reject us,

but came to meet us in your Son.

All **You embraced us as your children
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life

that we might live in him and he in us.

All **He opened his arms of love upon the cross
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed,

at supper with his friends

he took bread, and 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.

All **Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his body is the bread of life.**

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 for the forgiveness of sins;

do this in remembrance of me.

All **Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

All **As we eat and drink these holy gifts
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world
we offer you this sacrifice of praise
and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

SANCTUS Mozart *Coronation Mass*, sung by the choir

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.

*Holy, holy, holy, Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.*

Please sit

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

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

GIVING OF COMMUNION

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ

which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.
Eat and drink
in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts
by faith with thanksgiving.

Everyone is invited to receive the bread and wine or a blessing, during which the choir sing:

BENEDICTUS *Mozart Coronation Mass*

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

The heavens are telling the glory of God;
the wonder of his works displays the firmament.
In all the lands resounds the word, never unperceived, ever understood.
The heavens are telling the glory of God;
the wonder of his works displays the firmament God.

Psalm 19

The Creation – Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

ACT OF COMMITMENT

The Churchwardens read the following pledge on behalf of the PCC:

We, the Parochial Church Council of All Saints Church, Kingston:

- recognise the urgency of the climate and environmental crisis and the threat this poses to God's creation
- commit to tackling these issues in our lives, both individually and collectively, in collaboration with others
- will endeavour to reduce the church's carbon footprint and improve its energy efficiency year-on-year

Will you support the Parish Church Council in fulfilling this pledge:

All We will.

All **Lord of life and giver of hope,
we pledge ourselves to care for creation,
to reduce our waste,
to live sustainably,
and to value the rich diversity of life.
May your wisdom guide us,
that life in all its forms may flourish,
and may be faithful in voicing creation's praise.
Amen.**

FINAL HYMN

377 Immortal, invisible, God only wise

THE BLESSING

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

All **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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