

Evening online Prayer for Creation-tide on 20^h September 2020



Opening Responses

The world around us is full of beauty:

We praise your name O God.

For the gift of life on earth:

We praise your name, O God.

Open our eyes to see all your artistry,
Your image in all that you have made.

Where our praise is short or silent:

All creation sings out with joy.

Here we join with creation's song:

We praise your name O God.

Opening Prayer

God our creator,

We come together

To celebrate your creation:

The bright beauty about us,

The abundance of your providing;

Accept this offering of praise

As we worship you, the maker of all..

Amen.

Reflection: A Creation Drama.

Prayer: Lost for words...

We sense your presence, O God,

In the world around us,

In the wonder and gift of this life.

You overwhelm minds and hearts.

The vastness of the universe

Makes us wonder our place and part in things.

The experience of being, of living and dying,

Confronts us with our mortality

And gives us glimpses of the eternal.

Never more so than in this time of pandemic.

And it leaves us lost for words, helpless.

You delight our senses:

The rainbow's playful light, the vibrant colour of spring flowers;

The tang of the salt sea air and the smell of the freshly baked bread;

The taste of strawberries and raspberries and vanilla ice cream;

The sound of children laughing, of church bells and Bach;

The reflex grip of a tiny baby and the familiar embrace of a friends....

And it leaves us lost for words, helpless.

Generous God, you give us so much.

But we are people of much knowledge who lack wisdom;

People of great power who cannot tread gently amongst living things;
People of many possessions who crave more;
People of pleasures who search for contentment;
People of ideals who slump into apathy;
People of optimism whose hope is fragile;
People of belief who lack faith;
People of faith who have lost a sense of grace.
And it leaves us lost for words, helpless.

O God of grace, you are our help.
You made us to sense your presence,
Delight in your creation and know your love.
Your love is faithful,
Your forgiveness limitless,
Your compassion endless,
More than we deserve or could ever earn.
And it leaves us lost for words, except to sayAmen

An Act of Affirmation and Commitment

We choose a world of justice.
Where God's resources are cared for and shared fairly.
Where we conserve creation for future generations.
Where all people can live in peace.

We choose,
We choose God, for God is justice.

We choose a world of peace.
Where God's children no longer destroy each other,
Where everyone is treated with respect for their uniqueness.
Where lasting peace is built on God's love.

We choose,
We choose God, for God is peace.

We choose a world of love.
Where God's love is known to all the children of the earth.
Where everyone can feel accepted by their brothers and sisters.
Where God's purpose for the world is finally revealed.

We choose,
We choose God, for God is love.

We choose a world of joy.
Where the joy of God in all creation is celebrated.
Where the goodness within all is gladly known.
Where we join creation's song of praise.

We choose,
We choose joy, for God is joy.

We choose,
We choose God.
Amen

Blessing

May the heavens bless you.
May the sun shine on you.
May the rain dance on your wellies.
May the stars make you wonder and smile.
May the earth bless you,
And may you bless the earth
In planting and protest,
And sharing food.

Amen

*The resources included in this act of worship have been taken from:
Chris Polhill, 2010, A Heart for Creation, published by Wild Goose Publications.*