

Thursday Morning Prayer (Season of Creation)

God our loving creator, touch our hearts and minds
that we may enter the silence where you wait for us....

Bell x3

Silence

In the name of the Creator Spirit of God who gives birth to the entire universe of creation in love, and of the Word of God, spoken into the silence, giving shape and form to all creation, and of the Wisdom of God, who weaves the evolving web of life, revealing her wisdom through the many different voices of creation. **Amen.**

May the grace and peace of our creating God, who places us in the midst of the vast and expanding Universe on this beautiful and fragile planet, be with you! **And also with you.**

Confession

Oh God we approach humbly, with our fear and our failure, our confusion and consternation, we find ourselves standing on the edge – looking around to survey a world on fire... the bush burns, O God, and our hearts ache with grief for it. We cry out:

Lord have mercy upon us.

Christ have mercy upon us

Lord have mercy upon us.

We come to you to confess our complicity in this wild web of Creation. To name the ways our lives have brought harm to our neighbours, ourselves, and our world.

And so in silence, we hold before you the depths of our grief, sorrow, and pain...

Silence

Oh God, you have made us to love all you have made and to steward it with human hands and hearts. We confess that our hearts harden towards you, towards one another, and towards the precious earth, our home. We confess we have taken more than our share of your Creation, leaving the land and its creatures to suffer – and because of this, we weep.

Forgive our debts, as we forgive those indebted to us.

Oh God, your people cry out for justice and few stop to listen. Wars and rumours of wars whisper the false promise of peace while your people clamor for power and wealth. We confess we have not listened nor responded to the cry of the poor – and for this, we weep.

Forgive our debts, as we forgive those indebted to us.

Oh God, we are unnerved by a world on fire... the bush burns, O God, and we wonder when we might encounter your saving help again. Hear our confession, that the fire of your love may flood our souls with the life-giving healing power of your mercy.

Forgive our debts, as we forgive those indebted to us.

Assurance of Grace

Oh God open our lips

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

God of all ages, you call us to keep watch in the world and to discern the signs of our times. Grant us the wisdom which your Spirit bestows, that with courage we may proclaim your prophetic word in this Season of Creation and carry forward the urgent work you have set before us. We make our prayer through Jesus, the Christ, your Son, our brother, who lives and reigns with you in the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Poem of the Day

Psalm

Gospel

Acclamation: Hallelujah! Let all creation rise in song:

Hallelujah! Fill the earth with songs of worship, tell the wonders of the Sovereign one!

Silence

Our Reflections

Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith as we say,

We believe in God above us, Creator of all things, sustainer of all life.

We believe in Christ beside us, Companion and friend, redeemer of all the broken pieces of our universe. Who calls us to lives of reconciliation and renewal.

We believe in Spirit deep within us, Advocate and guide, who lifts up the groans of creation and lives with us eternally. We believe in the hope of God's resurrection created world, where all creation fits together in vibrant harmonies.

We believe in God above, beside, within, God yesterday, today and forever, Amen.

Our Prayers

Gathering our prayers together we pray as Jesus taught us saying together...

Sending

May the God who appeared in the burning bush, the God who hovered over the waters of creation and formed the world from chaos, the God who fills all creatures with food, form us in the likeness of Christ and renew the face of the earth.

Let us bless the Lord

Thanks be to God

Bell x3