

## Morning Prayer Second Sunday before Lent 7 February 2021

### Preparation

O Lord, open our lips  
**and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

My heart tells of your word, 'Seek my face.'  
**Your face, Lord, will I seek.**

Blessed are you, Lord God,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
Your Word calls all things into being,  
and the light of dawn awakens us to life.  
May your wisdom guide us this day  
that we may cherish and care for your good creation,  
and offer to you the sacrifice of our lips,  
praising you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence is kept.*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,  
so may the light of your presence, O God,  
set our hearts on fire with love for you;  
now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

### The Word of God

#### **Psalmody: Psalm 104.26-37**

O Lord, how manifold are your works!  
In wisdom you have made them all;  
the earth is full of your creatures.  
**There is the sea, spread far and wide,  
and there move creatures beyond number, both small and great.**  
There go the ships, and there is that Leviathan  
which you have made to play in the deep.  
**All of these look to you  
to give them their food in due season.**  
When you give it them, they gather it;  
you open your hand and they are filled with good.  
**When you hide your face they are troubled;  
when you take away their breath,  
they die and return again to the dust.**

When you send forth your spirit, they are created,  
and you renew the face of the earth.

**May the glory of the Lord endure for ever;**

**may the Lord rejoice in his works;**

He looks on the earth and it trembles;

he touches the mountains and they smoke.

**I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;**

**I will make music to my God while I have my being.**

So shall my song please him

while I rejoice in the Lord.

**Let sinners be consumed out of the earth**

**and the wicked be no more.**

**Bless the Lord, O my soul.**

**Alleluia.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son**

**and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning is now**

**and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**Old Testament Reading: Proverbs 8.1, 22-31**

A reading from the book of Proverbs.

Does not wisdom call,

and does not understanding raise her voice?

The LORD created me at the beginning of his work,

the first of his acts of long ago.

Ages ago I was set up,

at the first, before the beginning of the earth.

When there were no depths I was brought forth,

when there were no springs abounding with water.

Before the mountains had been shaped,

before the hills, I was brought forth—

when he had not yet made earth and fields,

or the world's first bits of soil.

When he established the heavens, I was there,

when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,

when he made firm the skies above,

when he established the fountains of the deep,

when he assigned to the sea its limit,

so that the waters might not transgress his command,

when he marked out the foundations of the earth,

then I was beside him, like a master worker;

and I was daily his delight,

rejoicing before him always,

rejoicing in his inhabited world

and delighting in the human race.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Canticle: Benedicite - A Song of Creation (The Song of the Three 35-37, 60-65)**

Bless the Lord all you works of the Lord:

sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

**Bless the Lord you heavens:**

**sing his praise and exalt him for ever.**

Bless the Lord you angels of the Lord:

sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

**Bless the Lord all people on earth:**

**sing his praise and exalt him for ever.**

O people of God bless the Lord:

sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

**Bless the Lord you priests of the Lord:**

**sing his praise and exalt him for ever.**

Bless the Lord you servants of the Lord:

sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

**Bless the Lord all you of upright spirit:**

**bles the Lord you that are holy and humble in heart.**

**Bless the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit:**

**sing his praise and exalt him for ever.**

**New Testament Reading: John 1.1-14**

A reading from the gospel of John.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Responsory**

The heavens proclaim the glory of God:  
and the firmament shows his handiwork.

**The firmament shows God's handiwork:  
and one day pours out its song to another.**

The sun goes forth from the ends of the heavens  
**and proclaims the glory of God.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**The heavens proclaim the glory of God:  
And the firmament shows his handiwork.**

### **Gospel Canticle: The Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah)**

Let the fields be joyful and all that is in them:  
let all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord.

**Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,  
who has come to his people and set them free.**

**He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,  
born of the house of his servant David.**

**Through his holy prophets God promised of old  
to save us from our enemies,**

**from the hands of all that hate us,**

**To show mercy to our ancestors,  
and to remember his holy covenant.**

**This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:**

**to set us free from the hands of our enemies,**

**Free to worship him without fear,**

**holy and righteous in his sight**

**all the days of our life.**

**And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,**

**for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,**

**To give his people knowledge of salvation**

**by the forgiveness of all their sins.**

**In the tender compassion of our God**

**the dawn from on high shall break upon us,**

**To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,**

**and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son**

**and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning is now**

**and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Let the fields be joyful and all that is in them:

let all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord.

## Address

### Music

All creatures of our God and King,  
lift up your voice and with us sing  
alleluia, alleluia!  
Thou burning sun with golden beam,  
thou silver moon with softer gleam:  
*O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

Dear mother earth, who day by day  
unfoldest blessings on our way,  
O praise him, alleluia!  
The flow'rs and fruits that in thee grow,  
let them his glory also show:

And all ye men of tender heart,  
forgiving others, take your part,  
O sing ye, alleluia!  
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,  
praise God and on him cast your care:

Let all things their Creator bless,  
and worship him in humbleness,  
O praise him, alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:

*William Henry Draper (1855-1933)*

### Prayers

Let us pray to God,  
that he will bring to fruition all that he desires  
for his creation.  
Father, Lord of creation,  
**in your mercy, hear us.**

You have created the universe by your eternal Word,  
and have blessed humankind in making us  
stewards of the earth.  
We pray for your world,  
that we may share and conserve its resources,  
and live in reverence for the creation  
and in harmony with one another.  
Father, Lord of creation,  
**in your mercy, hear us.**

You have given the human race a rich land,  
a land of streams and springs,  
wheat and barley,  
vines and oil and honey.  
We have made by sin a world of suffering and sorrow.  
We pray for those who bear the weight of affliction,  
that they may come to share the life of wholeness and plenty.  
Father, Lord of creation,  
**in your mercy, hear us.**

In Christ you call us to a new way of life,  
loving our neighbours before ourselves.  
Help us to treat with care and respect the world as it is  
as we live in hope and anticipation of the world  
as it will be  
when your kingdom comes and your will is done.  
Father, Lord of creation,  
**in your mercy, hear us.**

We thank you for those, living and departed,  
who have shown a true respect for your creation;  
especially this week we remember Captain Sir Tom Moore.  
Help us to follow in their footsteps,  
until, with them, we see you face to face,  
where all is made new in Christ our Lord.

Merciful Father,  
**accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

### **The Collect**

Almighty God,  
you have created the heavens and the earth  
and made us in your own image:  
teach us to discern your hand in all your works  
and your likeness in all your children;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things,  
now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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.**

### **The Conclusion**

May God who made heaven and earth bless us and keep us.

**Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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