

The Parish of Hempsted with St Mary de Lode  
and St Mary de Crypt, Gloucester  
*in partnership with Gloucester Cathedral*

**A Prayer in Lockdown**

Ever present God, be with us in our isolation, be close to us in our distancing, be healing in our sickness, be joy in our sadness, be light in our darkness, be wisdom in our confusion, be all that is familiar when all is unfamiliar, that when the doors reopen we may with the zeal of Pentecost inhabit our communities and speak of your goodness to an emerging world. For Jesus' sake. Amen.

**The Peace**

If we are in Christ, we are becoming a new creation.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*We offer one another a sign of God's peace*

*We sing or say the chant*

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.  
Wait for the Lord, be strong take heart.

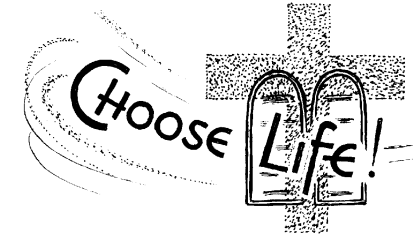
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**Blessing**

May God who established the dance of creation  
who marvelled at the lilies of the field,  
who transforms chaos to order,  
lead us to transform our lives and the church to reflect God's glory in  
creation.  
And the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer  
be with you this day and always. **Amen.**

*Some prayers used in this service are reproduced from the Season of Creation Ecumenical  
Prayer Service 2021*

[www.swithunandmary.org.uk](http://www.swithunandmary.org.uk)



Trinity 16  
**CLIMATE SUNDAY**  
19 September 2021

**Opening Greeting**

From the places we call home, we are gathered in the name of God,  
Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of each creature and the Earth, that is our  
common home.

*We sing or say*

For the beauty of the earth  
for the beauty of the skies.  
For the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies.

*Lord of all to thee we raise  
this our joyful hymn of praise*

For the beauty of the hour  
of the day and of the night.  
Hill and vale and tree and flower  
sun and moon and stars of light.

For the joy of human love  
brother, sister, parent, child.  
Friends on earth and friends above  
pleasures pure and undefiled.

For each perfect gift of thine  
to our race so freely given.  
Graces human and divine  
flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n.

### **We say Sorry to God and we Receive God's Forgiveness**

Jesus Christ could not find a place to lay his head. Because of our will to dominate, millions of our human family are displaced from their homes. Many lack access to clean water, sanitation and dignified places for personal hygiene.

**Have mercy on us, for the sake of the Earth and all that is in it.**

Foxes of the field and birds of the air have a place to call home. Because we misuse the land, the soil, water and air, habitats are desecrated, and millions of species no longer have a home.

**Have mercy on us, for the sake of the Earth and all that is in it.**

Your promise was to be a blessing for all the peoples of the Earth. But when we exploit the gifts of creation, Indigenous lands are devastated and those who live close to the Earth lose their ways of life.

**Have mercy on us, for the sake of the Earth and all that is in it.**

The mustard seed is great because it provides shelter for many. But we seek security for ourselves, instead of mutual care and faithful hospitality towards our co-creatures.

**Have mercy on us, for the sake of the Earth and all that is in it.**

Let us remember "that we ourselves are dust of the earth" (cf. Gen 2:7); our very bodies are made of her elements, we breathe her sacred air and we receive life and refreshment from her sacred waters. May we hear it as a promise and a calling.

**Turn us O God, from our desire to unroot ourselves from our home in the garden, and from our will to dominate your Earth. Call us again, to till and to keep. Gather us into the power of just relationships that heal and sustain. Enlighten us by your Spirit that renews the face of your Earth and safeguards a home for all. Amen.**

May the God of love call *you* back, forgive *you* your sins,  
and assure *you* of eternal love in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

### **The Prayer for Today**

Lord of creation, whose glory is around and within us: open our eyes to your wonders, that we may serve you with reverence and know your peace at our lives' end, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Bible reading: Psalm 84 & 24 (adapted)**

**Reflection (attached)**

**We Declare our Faith**

We belong to the Creator in whose image we are all made.

**In God we are breathing, in God we are living, in God we share the life of all creation.**

We belong to Jesus Christ, the true icon of God and of humankind.

**In him God is breathing, in him God is living, through him we are reconciled.**

We belong to the Holy Spirit, who gives us new life and strengthens our faith.

**In the Spirit life is breathing, in the Spirit truth is living, the breath of God always moves us.**

We belong to the Holy Trinity, who is one in all and Three-in-One.

**In God we are all made, in Christ we are all saved, in the Spirit we are all united.**

*Per Harling*

**Intercessions**

*We name before God those people and situations we wish to pray for ending with The Lord's Prayer.*