

St Andrew's, Chesterton

All-Age Communion

21 September 2025

Creation Sunday

Copyright acknowledgement (where not indicated):
Settings for Sanctus, Benedictus, Agnus Dei from the Mass of the Bread of Life by Margaret Rizza © 1998 Kevin Mayhew Ltd.
Some material included in this service is copyright: © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ, USA.; © The Archbishops' Council 2000-20. Copyright hymns are reproduced under CCLI Licence no. 30093 and One Licence 632880-A.

Please be aware this service is livestreamed. If you or anyone accompanying you does not wish to be visible on camera, remain behind the front row. Those receiving Communion will not be filmed.

We are welcomed

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

The service is introduced

We sing

- 1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed:

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to thee,
'How great thou art! How great thou art!'*

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to thee,
'How great thou art! How great thou art!'*

- 2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze:
- 3 And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
he bled and died to take away my sin:
- 4 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
and take me home — what joy shall fill my heart!
Then shall I bow in humble adoration
and there proclaim, 'My God, how great thou art!'

Reproduced from *Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition*, number 546.
Words: STUART K. HINE (1899–1989) Words and Music: © 1953 The Stuart Hine Trust
/ Kingsway Communications Ltd.

The Collect

**Almighty God, you have entrusted to us the riches
of your good creation:
teach us to be wise and faithful stewards,
not serving wealth, but serving you above all;
that by your Spirit we may use what we have
to nurture life, seek justice, and care for the earth,
until all creation is reconciled in Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Bible readings

Out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree
that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of
life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the
knowledge of good and evil.

Genesis 2:9

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;
let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
¹² let the field exult, and everything in it.
Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy
¹³ before the LORD; for he is coming,

Psalms 96:11-13

Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will take a sprig from the
lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender
one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant
it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain height of
Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and
bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of
bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged
creatures of every kind. All the trees of the field shall know
that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high
the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree
flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

Ezekiel 17:22-24

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life,
bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the
Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city. On
either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve
kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves
of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

Revelation 22: 1-2

Talk Part 1: Care for Creation

We prepare to say sorry

A reading from the Prophet Hosea:

Return, O Israel, to the LORD your God, for you have
stumbled because of your iniquity. ² Take words with you
and return to the LORD; say to him,
'Take away all guilt; accept that which is good, and we will
offer the fruit of our lips. ³ Assyria shall not save us; we will
not ride upon horses; we will say no more, "Our God",
to the work of our hands. In you the orphan finds mercy.'

⁴ I will heal their disloyalty; I will love them freely, for my
anger has turned from them. ⁵ I will be like the dew to
Israel; he shall blossom like the lily, he shall strike root like
the forests of Lebanon. ⁶ His shoots shall spread out; his
beauty shall be like the olive tree, and his fragrance like that
of Lebanon. ⁷ They shall again live beneath my shadow, they
shall flourish as a garden; they shall blossom like the vine,
their fragrance shall be like the wine of Lebanon.

Hosea 14:1-7

As we call to mind God's kingship, judgement, and mercy
we confess our sin, and the sins of our society, in the
misuse of God's creation.

God our Father, we are sorry for the times when we have
used your gifts carelessly, and acted ungratefully.
Hear our prayer, and in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

We enjoy the fruits of the harvest, but sometimes forget
that you have given them to us.
Father, in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

We belong to a people who are full and satisfied, but ignore
the cry of the hungry.
Father, in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

We are thoughtless, and do not care enough for the world
you have made.
Father, in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

We store up goods for ourselves alone, as if there were no
God and no heaven.
Father, in your mercy:
forgive us and help us.

We hear God's forgiveness proclaimed

The Lord enrich you with his grace, and nourish you with
his blessing; the Lord defend you in trouble and keep you
from all evil; the Lord accept your prayers, and absolve you
from your offences,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.
Amen.

Choir song of response: All things bright and beautiful

Words: C.F. Alexander (1818–1895); Music by John Rutter (b. 1945)

Talk Part 2: Becoming an Eco Church

- Worship and teaching
- Buildings
- Land
- Community and Global Engagement
- Lifestyle.



We sing what we believe

1. We believe in God the Father,
God almighty, by whose plan
earth and heaven sprang to being,
all created things began.
We believe in Christ the Saviour,
Son of God in human frame,
virgin-born, the child of Mary
upon whom the Spirit came.
2. Christ, who on the cross forsaken,
like a lamb to slaughter led,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,
he descended to the dead.
We believe in Jesus risen,
heaven's king to rule and reign,
to the Father's side ascended
till as judge he comes again.

3. We believe in God the Spirit;
in one Church, below, above:
saints of God in one communion,
one in holiness and love.
So by faith, our sins forgiven,
Christ our Saviour, Lord and friend,
we shall rise with him in glory
to the life that knows no end.

WGRG Iona Community; tune: Lewis Folk Melody arr. John Bell (1949-) New Patterns for
Worship Creed E8.

Talk Part 3: Next steps as an Eco Church

We bring our prayers to God

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

Reading of Banns

We share the Peace

Peace to you from God who is our Father.
Peace from Jesus Christ who is our peace.
Peace from the Holy Spirit who gives us life.
The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.



A collection for the ministry and mission of St
Andrew's will be taken at this point of the service.
Thank you to all who give to the life of our church in
so many ways.

It is also possible to make electronic donations via the
machines at the back or this QR code here.

We sing during our Offertory

Sung to the tune of *What a Friend we have in Jesus*.

- 1 God, the maker of the heavens,
and the planet that we share,
show us how to live, like Jesus,
lives of gratitude and care.
Make us mindful of the footprints
from the lives that we pursue.
Make us partners in your mission:
you are making all things new.
- 2 God, the gardener of Eden,
teach us how to tend this earth,
learning from the changing seasons,
times of fallow and new birth.
Lord have mercy when we're careless,
rich resources we misuse.
Use our hands to heal creation:
you are making all things new.

- 3 God of labour and vocation,
Lord of science, trade and art,
take our efforts and our passions
make them mirrors of your heart.
Every habitat and creature
loved and valued, God, by you.
May our lives reveal your Kingdom:
you are making all things new.

CCL# 7126825 © 2019 Sam Hargreaves / Resound Worship Tune: 'Converse' by Charles Converse (1868).

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.

Almighty God, good Father to us all,
your face is turned towards your world.
In love you gave us Jesus your Son
to rescue us from sin and death.
Your Word goes out to call us home
to the city where angels sing your praise.
We join with them in heaven's song:

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

**Blessed is he, blessed is he, blessed is he who comes
in the name, he who comes in the name of the
Lord, Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Father of all, we give you thanks for every gift that comes
from heaven. To the darkness Jesus came as your light.
With signs of faith and words of hope he touched
untouchables with love and washed the guilty clean.
This is his story.

**This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

The crowds came out to see your Son,
yet at the end they turned on him.
On the night he was betrayed
he came to table with his friends
to celebrate the freedom of your people.
This is his story.

**This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food;
he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said:
This is my body, given for you all.
Jesus then gave thanks for the wine;
he took the cup, gave it and said:
This is my blood, shed for you all
for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this in remembrance of me.
This is our story.

**This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate the cross
on which he died to set us free.
Defying death he rose again
and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.
This is our story.

**This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

Send your Spirit on us now
that by these gifts we may feed on Christ
with opened eyes and hearts on fire.
May we and all who share this food
offer ourselves to live for you
and be welcomed at your feast in heaven
where all creation worships you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit:
**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.**

We kneel and keep a moment's silence

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.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

We sing the Agnus Dei

**Jesus, Lamb of God, Jesus, Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, Jesus, Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, Jesus, Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world:
grant us your peace, grant us your peace.**

Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts

for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

The president and people receive communion. Visitors who are communicant members of their home churches are welcome to receive communion at St Andrew's. If you would prefer to receive a blessing instead, please signify this by bringing your order of service with you.

There will be two communion stations – one at the Nave altar (which is the only place that offers the option to receive the bread dipped in the wine by the priest), and one at the South Aisle altar to kneel – if that is your preference.

Communion Motet - Unfolding Creation

When God unwound the planets and bathed the land with seas,
She sculpted little children, painted birds, embroidered trees.
She soaked her toes in riverbeds along the deep, green wood.
And cast her eyes to jewelled skies, and God said it was good.
She said that it was good.

Great Yahweh spoke thro' Moses and bid the people go.
With fear the Hebrews wandered to a land they did not know.
Tho' death was parched on ev'ry stone and stared from ev'ry hill.
Yet Yahweh led with fire and bread saying: "Walk and trust in me.
Just walk and trust in me."

When Jesus fed the gathering, he shared the gifts of all.
"As salt gives food its richness, so shall you each be called.
And let your light shine brightly, a city on a hill.
Know that all love comes from above, and share it as you will.
Share God's love as you will."

The stones were high up lifted, a nameless sacrifice.
Said Jesus, "Let the blameless be the first to cast the dice."
A silhouette of cross and flesh as suddenly appeared.
And Jesus said, with lowered head, "Forgive them in their fear.
Forgive them in their fear."

When we with care are burdened doubled o'er with fear and pain
Our strength comes from our parent who makes us new again
God calls us by creation to blossom in the sun
And nurture growth in others, so all things may be one
So all things may be one.

All riches and all beauty, all sorrow, and all joy,
To us, from God, are given to use in Earth's employ.
Oh, let the whole creation of Earth ring with the call:
"From mountain peaks of gladness, we praise thee, God of All.
We praise thee, God of All!"

Words and Music: Linnea Good © Borealis Music.

Communion Hymn

1. Above the moon earth rises
A sunlit mossy stone
A garden that God prizes
Where life has richly grown
An emerald selected
For us to guard with care
An isle in space protected
By one thin reef of air
2. The mossy stone is grieving
Its tears are bitter rain

The garden is unleaving
And all its harvests wane
The emerald is clouded
Its lustre dims and fades
The isle of life is shrouded
In thick and stagnant haze

3. O listen to the sighing
Of water sky and land
And hear the Spirit crying
The future is at hand
The moss and garden thinning
Portend a death or birth
The end or new beginning
For all that lives on earth
4. A death if hearts now harden
A birth if we repent
And tend and keep the garden
As God has always meant
To sow without abusing
The soil where life is grown
To reap without our bruising
The sunlit mossy stone.

Reproduced from *Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition*, number 531. Tune: Salley Gardens arranged by John L. Bell; Words: Thomas H. Troeger; © Words: Oxford University Press; Music: 1987, 1997 WGRG, c/o Iona Community, Glasgow, Scotland.

We pray after Communion

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

Notices + Junior Church Commissioning

We sing

You shall go out with joy
and be led forth with peace,
and the mountains and the hills
shall break forth before you.
There'll be shouts of joy,
and the trees of the field
shall clap, shall clap their hands,
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,
and you'll go out with joy.

Reproduced from *Ancient & Modern Electronic Words Edition*, number 484
Words and Music: STUART DAUERMANN (b. 1944) based on Isaiah 55.12 ©
1975, Lillenas Publishing Company / Music Services.

Blessing and Dismissal

May God keep you in all your days.
May Christ shield you in all your ways.
May the Spirit bring you healing and peace.
May God the Holy Trinity drive all darkness from you
and pour upon you blessing and light. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.