



St Anne with Holy Trinity, Brondesbury

Confidently sharing the love of Christ

Readings and Notice Sheet 3rd Sunday of Creation Season 2021 And Service of Confirmation 19th September 2021

From September 1 to October 4, much of the Christian family celebrates the gift of creation. This global celebration began in 1989 with the Ecumenical Patriarchate's recognition of the Day of Prayer for Creation and is now embraced by the wide ecumenical community. Prayer is a powerful experience and tool to raise awareness and foster transformational relations and ministry. This year the theme is A Home for All? Renewing the oikos of God. It is our hope to work together to acknowledge the wisdom from countless sisters and brothers helping all to renew our world as an interconnected and interdependent global beloved community. You can read more at www.seasonofcreation.org

On this Sunday we are invited to reflect on creating a Just Home for All People – how are we caring each other and our natural environment in a way that reflects the whole of creation



season of
creation

The Collect

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 your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Old Testament reading—

The book of Proverbs is a metaphor—and poetic in its descriptive language. Today's poem is an acrostic, an a-b-c's of a "good woman." While the poem valorises daily life and the real economic contributions of women in the ancient world. This ideal woman does good "all the days of her life," putting the focus, as wisdom literature often does, on the lived experiences of normal people. What is of value? Labour, diligence, skill, and provision. It is important as always to read this in context and not see it as prescriptive to any gender identity. As with much of proverbs the focus of this passage is on the nature of wisdom and 'good' not on the allegories which are used to support these.

A reading from the book of **Proverbs 31:10-31**

A capable wife who can find?
She is far more precious than jewels.
The heart of her husband trusts in her,
and he will have no lack of gain.
She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life.
She seeks wool and flax, and works with willing hands.
She is like the ships of the merchant,
she brings her food from far away.
She rises while it is still night
and provides food for her household
and tasks for her servant-girls.
She considers a field and buys it;
with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.
She girds herself with strength,
and makes her arms strong.
She perceives that her merchandise is profitable.
Her lamp does not go out at night.
She puts her hands to the distaff,
and her hands hold the spindle.
She opens her hand to the poor,
and reaches out her hands to the needy.
She is not afraid for her household when it snows,
for all her household are clothed in crimson.
She makes herself coverings;
her clothing is fine linen and purple.
Her husband is known in the city gates,
taking his seat among the elders of the land.
She makes linen garments and sells them;
she supplies the merchant with sashes.
Strength and dignity are her clothing,
and she laughs at the time to come.
She opens her mouth with wisdom,
and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.
She looks well to the ways of her household,
and does not eat the bread of idleness.
Her children rise up and call her happy;
her husband too, and he praises her:
“Many women have done excellently,
but you surpass them all.”
Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain,
but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.
Give her a share in the fruit of her hands,
and let her works praise her in the city gates.

New Testament Reading

Following Christ, being God’s friend, is not simply a matter of getting work done and being a busy bee for the Lord. Rather, following Christ holistically is a matter of with what posture and from what core your works emerge. Here we are again in James’ centering question with this pericope: Are you a friend of the world or a friend of God? In other words, are you lifting

from your core, or elsewhere, which will lead to the body being thrown out of whack? Specifically, the ask from James this week is: Is the wisdom informing your action in the world from above, from God?

A reading from the letter of **James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a**

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

The Gospel reading from Mark

Mark 9:30-37 has two distinct episodes, although they are clearly linked as events that happened while travelling in Galilee. In the first section (Mark 9:30-32), Jesus predicts his death and resurrection for a second time (the first was in Mark 8:31-33). Although the disciples' reaction by this point is unsurprising, they have no idea what he is talking about. The second episode confirms the disciples' ignorance. Jesus asks them what they had been arguing about, and it turns out the topic had been who was the greatest. The fact that their time had been spent with apostolic jostling confirms just how hardened their hearts have become (an idea first suggested in Mark 6:52). Jesus then describes what the kingdom of God is like, and how its "reality" is construed differently than any human reign. Those who are most honoured in the Kingdom are the servants and those who are least. This idea has been shown time and again throughout the gospel; the kingdom breaks into the world in the least likely of places.

Mark 9:30-37

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

Intercessions

Let us pray to God our creator,
who has given us the earth's goodness for our delight,
and entrusted it to our care and tenderness.

We pray for your church
That it may listen for the wisdom of all creation.
We pray for Archbishop Justin, Bishop's Sarah and Pete. We pray also for the
Willesden Episcopal area as it discerns who might be our new Bishop

God of life,
Hear our Prayer.

For all who live in captivity to debt,
whose lives are cramped by fear
from which there is no turning
except through abundant harvest;
Give us the will to cherish this planet
and to use its riches for the good and welfare of all;
in way that embraces your wisdom.

God of life,
Hear our Prayer.

For those who labour in poverty,
are oppressed by unjust laws,
are prevented from speaking the truth,
and long for a harvest of justice.
Give us hands to care and heal, and compel us to be generous.
Help us listen for your wisdom,
so that all life may flourish

God of life,
Hear our Prayer.

For all who are captive to greed and waste and boredom,
whose harvest joy is choked
with things they do not need;
teach us to listen for your guiding wisdom

God of life,
Hear our Prayer.

We ask you to hear us, good Lord
as we pray for all who are on our hearts,
including Megan, Michael Ngo, Kay, Michael, Comfort, Joyce, Megan, Fr Robert,
Jean, Isobel, Peter, Pearl, Rute, Ron, Josephine, John, Cecilia and Ruth. Nurture in
each of us life and hope.

God of life,
Hear our Prayer.

Creator of all wisdom,
you have filled the world with beauty:
open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works; that, rejoicing in your whole creation we may praise you eternally.
We pray for all who have left us and now rest with you in eternity. We give thanks for their lives and the mark they have left on ours. Amongst them we remember Takashi Kitahara and Eddie Wright

In the stillness of this moment we lift our owns before God. ...(*allow a time of silence*)

Lord of all Creation,
as we have received the bread and wine,
Fruits of the earth and tokens of salvation,
so with joy we celebrate your goodness
And commit ourselves to serve you on your earth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord
who taught us to prayer saying:

**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.**

Notices

Gardening Day

A huge thank you to everyone who assisted with our gardening day yesterday (18th September from 10-12).

Confirmation

It is a joy to have Bishop Pete with us at **9.30am Service today**— for a service of confirmation. At present we have three candidates. Please pray for Ardalan, Layla and Adam as they take this next step of faith.

Bishop Peter's Farewells

As I am sure you know Bishop Pete will be moving on after 20 years as Bishop of Willesden and at the end of September. There will be a number of ways to farewell the Bishop:

Area Service for Bishop Pete on Saturday **25th September at 7:00pm** at St John West Ealing.

Also Bishop Pete will be with us on the 19th and we can say farewell then too!

If you would like to contribute to a collection for +Pete and Sarah, email Mo C and she can provide bank details—alternatively you can place cash in an envelop and mark it collection for Bishop Pete.

Creation Season— will be celebrated each Sunday in September in the lead up to **Harvest Festival on 3rd October**. Creation Season is a time when we focus on the gift of God creation and our need to care for it.

From September 1 to October 4, the Christian family celebrates the good gift of creation. This global celebration began in 1989 with the Ecumenical Patriarchate's recognition of the Day of Prayer for Creation and is now embraced by the wide ecumenical community. Prayer is a powerful experience and tool to raise awareness and foster transformational relations and ministry. ***This year our theme is A Home for All? Renewing the oikos of God.*** This year this will also include contributing to a visual display of prayers for our environment. (see <https://www.churchofengland.org/about/environment-and-climate-change/season-creation>).

(The PCC also agreed earlier this year that to complete the paperwork to allow us to be part of the **Eco-Church movement**. As a congregation we have always been committed to this, but we wanted to make this more formal). If you would like to see more now—<https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/>

As part of Creation Season we are inviting the congregation to participate in the Prayer Boat for Climate Change

This project being organised by Young Christian Climate Network (YCCN) and Christian Aid. Environmental change impacts most often on the most poor and vulnerable in the world. This project invites us to join together in prayer, folding prayer boats and adding our prayers. We will display our pray boats in the rotunda from Harvest. You can read more here—and more details will be in church. <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/resources/get-involved/rise-moment-activity-pack>

Instructions for folding origami boats can also be collected from the back of church. Please use old paper that needs recycling if you can!

Harvest Supper and Harvest Festival.

Saturday 2nd October starting at 6pm there will be Harvest Supper and Quiz night. There is a sign up sheet at the back up church or you can email Mo C if you would like to come. To allow for catering we need to know final numbers by the 28th September.

Harvest Festival will then be celebrated at 9.30am on Sunday 3rd October; you can start bringing in Harvest goods now and leaving them in the basket at the back of church so we can use them for our display.

Other dates for your diary!

Advent will begin this year with a Social event on either the 26th or 27th November—we are still confirming details but we are hoping to host an event to mark the start of the new season.

Wreath making workshop will take place on Saturday 11th December.

Covid Guidance for Coming to worship

- ⇒ As soon as you enter the building **please continue to either wash your hands or use the sanitizer provided.**
- ⇒ We would ask, that if you can **please wear a face mask** until you are upstairs and seated in your chair. It is then your choice if you remove your mask, but please do respect those close to you or keep a distance from them.
- ⇒ Chairs are in rows but spaced more widely. There are signs you can use to place of a chair if you feel you would like more space.
- ⇒ **We can now sing!**
- ⇒ **Hymn books** will now be available to those who want them, but the screens will also be used. Individuals can choose. Please do return your book to the stand when you leave, please, so no one else has to touch it!
This will also be the case with service sheets.
- ⇒ The peace may take place. As it is hard to know who would welcome a handshake; the suggestion is that we continue as we are – smiling, waving or bowing.
 - ⇒ Similarly, the offertory bowl will remain at the door rather than being passed around.
 - ⇒ **Communion** will continue to be administered in the same way, with members of the congregation coming forward, and then everyone receiving together once we have returned to our seats. Mother Christine will continue to wear a mask for distribution, and we would ask you to do the same. However, this is your choice.



Laurence's Larder

You can still leave your donations, tinned fish or any non perishable food in the basket at the top of the stairs. You can see updates on this work at <https://www.laurenceslarder.org.uk>

Confirmation Candidates—Please pray for Ardalan, Layla and Adam as they prepare for their confirmation next Sunday.

For our prayers—Megan, Ruth, Michael Ngo, Kay, Michael, Comfort, Joyce, Megan, Fr Robert, Jean, Isobel, Peter, Pearl, Rute, Ron, Josephine, John, Cecilia and Ruth. We remember those who have died including Takashi Kitahara and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time including Eddie Wright.

Service this week

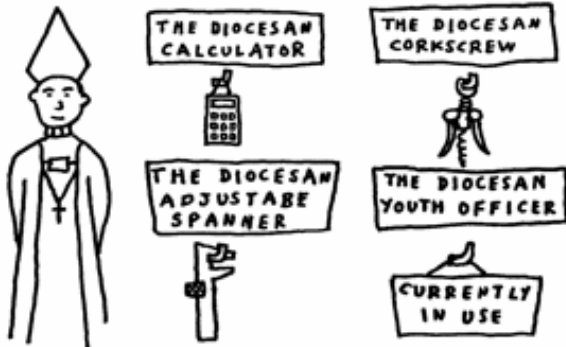
- Monday 20th September at 2pm**—Christian Contemplation on Zoom
- Tuesday 21st September at 8.30am**—Morning Prayer in Chapel and on Zoom
- Thursday 23rd September at 8.30am**—Morning Prayer in Chapel and on Zoom
- Friday 17th September—9.30am** My Move Playgroup resumes
- Friday 17th September at 2pm**— Tea and Chat

Sunday 26th September 2021- Creation 4

- 8.30am**—Morning Prayer in Chapel and on Zoom
Thought for the Day on Facebook at some point during the morning.
- 9.30am — Service of Confirmation**—Eucharist in Church with Bishop Pete followed by a Reception
- 5pm**—**Service of the Day on Zoom**

BISHOPS

WHAT THEY DO



TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DIOCESAN PORTFOLIO OF ASSETS



RESPOND TO CRISES WHEN THEY OCCUR



SIT IN THE HOUSE OF BISHOPS



DISCIPLINE THE CLERGY

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