

**THIRD SUNDAY OF CREATION TIME**  
**15 September 2024**



**GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME**

**Welcome & Acknowledgement of Country**

**Call to Worship**

In the beginning before time,  
before people, before the world began,  
**God was.**

Here and now,  
among us, beside us,  
enlisting the people of earth for the purposes of heaven,  
**God is.**

In the future,  
when we have turned to dust  
and all we know has found its fulfilment,  
**God will be.**

Not denying the world but delighting in it,  
not understanding the world, but redeeming it,  
through Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
**God was, God is, God will be.**

### **Entry Hymn**

*A man there lived in Galilee [TIS 235]*

### **The Invocation**

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.**

### **The Greeting**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the  
fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

### **Kids Time With God**

### **Scripture Sentence**

The earth is the LORD'S and all that is in it, the world, and those who  
live in it; for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the  
rivers.

Psalm 24:1–2

## **Prayer of Preparation**

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name,  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **Kyrie eleison (Lord, have mercy)**

**Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.**

## **Confession**

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God's forgiveness.

**Merciful God,  
our maker and our judge,  
we have sinned against you  
in thought, word and deed,  
and in what we have failed to do:  
we have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;  
we repent and are sorry for all our sins.  
Father, forgive us.  
Strengthen us to love and obey you  
in newness of life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **The Absolution**

Almighty God,  
who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith,  
pardon you and set you free from all your sins,  
strengthen you in all goodness  
and keep you in eternal life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **The Hymn of Praise, *Gloria in excelsis.***

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to God's people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## **Prayer of the Day.**

Bountiful God, you call us to labour with you in tending the earth: Where we lack love, open our hearts to the world; where we waste, give us discipline to conserve; where we neglect, awaken our minds and wills to insight and care. May we with all your creatures honour and serve you in all things for you live and reign with Christ, Redeemer of all, and with your Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

### First Reading

Proverbs 1:20–33

Wisdom cries out in the street; in the squares she raises her voice.  
At the busiest corner she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates  
she speaks:

“How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple? How long will  
scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge? Give  
heed to my reproof; I will pour out my thoughts to you; I will make  
my words known to you. Because I have called and you refused,  
have stretched out my hand and no one heeded, and because you  
have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof, I  
also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when panic strikes you,  
when panic strikes you like a storm, and your calamity comes like a  
whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you.

Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me  
diligently, but will not find me. Because they hated knowledge and  
did not choose the fear of the LORD, would have none of my  
counsel, and despised all my reproof, therefore they shall eat the  
fruit of their way and be sated with their own devices.

For waywardness kills the simple, and the complacency of fools  
destroys them; but those who listen to me will be secure and will  
live at ease, without dread of disaster.”

Hear the word of the Lord,  
**Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 19

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God:  
**and the firmament proclaims his handiwork;**
- 2 One day tells it to another:  
**and night to night communicates knowledge.**
- 3 There is no speech or language:  
**nor are their voices heard;**

- 4 Yet their sound has gone out through all the world:  
**and their words to the ends of the earth.**
- 5 There he has pitched a tent for the sun:  
**which comes out as a bridegroom from his chamber,  
and rejoices like a strong man to run his course.**
- 6 Its rising is at one end of the heavens,  
and its circuit to their farthest bound:  
**and nothing is hidden from its heat.**
- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul:  
**the command of the Lord is true,  
and makes wise the simple.**
- 8 The precepts of the Lord are right,  
and rejoice the heart:  
**the commandment of the Lord is pure,  
and gives light to the eyes.**
- 9 The fear of the Lord is clean, and endures for ever:  
**the judgements of the Lord are unchanging,  
and righteous every one.**
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold,  
even much fine gold:  
**sweeter also than honey,  
than the honey that drips from the comb.**
- 11 Moreover, by them is your servant taught:  
**and in keeping them there is great reward.**
- 12 Who can know their own unwitting sins?:  
**O cleanse me from my secret faults.**
- 13 Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins,  
lest they get the mastery over me:  
**so I shall be clean, and innocent of great offence.**
- 14 May the words of my mouth and the meditation  
of my heart be acceptable in your sight:  
**O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.**

## Second Reading

James 2:18–26

But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I by my works will show you my faith. You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder. Do you want to be shown, you senseless person, that faith apart from works is barren? Was not our ancestor Abraham justified by works when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was brought to completion by the works. Thus the scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness,” and he was called the friend of God. You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. Likewise, was not Rahab the prostitute also justified by works when she welcomed the messengers and sent them out by another road? For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is also dead.”

Hear the word of the Lord,

**Thanks be to God.**

## The Gospel

Mark 8:27–38

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Mark.

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all

this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

## The Sermon





## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Let us together affirm the faith of the church.

**You, O God, are supreme and holy.  
You create our world and give us life.  
Your purpose overarches everything we do.  
You have always been with us.  
You are God.**

**You, O God, are infinitely generous,  
good beyond all measure.  
You came to us before we came to you.  
You have revealed and proved  
your love for us in Jesus Christ,  
who lived and died and rose again.  
You are with us now.  
You are God.**

**You, O God, are Holy Spirit.  
You empower us to be the gospel in the world.  
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.**

**You are our God. We worship you.**

[New Zealand Anglican Prayer Book, page 481]

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

**The celebrant says.**

Let us pray for all creation, for the City of Ipswich and for the mission of the Church.

Blessed God, whose love calls the whole creation into covenant with you, and who puts in our hands responsibility for the care of the earth and its creatures: we pray for all to whom you have given life and being, saying,

**Merciful God, sustain your planet and people in peace.**

For the well-being of the earth; for its resources of water, air, light, and soil, that they may be tended for the good of all creation, we pray:

**Merciful God, sustain your planet and people in peace.**

For the waters of the earth; for their careful use and conservation, that we may have the will and the ability to keep them clean and pure, we pray:

**Merciful God, sustain your planet and people in peace.**

For the mineral and energy resources of the planet, that we may learn sustainable consumption and sound care of the environment from which they come, we pray:

**Merciful God, sustain your planet and people in peace.**

For the animals of the earth, wild and domestic, large and small, that we and they may thrive in harmony with one another, we pray:

**Merciful God, sustain your planet and people in peace.**

For the creatures of the earth that do us harm and those whose place in your creation we do not understand or welcome, that we may see them as your beloved creatures, we pray:

**Merciful God, sustain your planet and people in peace.**

For all who shape public policies affecting the planet and its creatures [especially for N and our local leaders], that they may consider wisely the well-being of all who come after us, we pray:

**Merciful God, sustain your planet and people in peace.**

For all those engaged in conservation, in agriculture, aquaculture and fishing, in mining and industry, and in forestry and timber-harvesting, that the health, fruitfulness, and beauty of the natural world may be sustained alongside human activity, we pray:

**Merciful God, sustain your planet and people in peace.**

For the creatures and the human beings of your world who are ill, or in danger, pain, or special need [especially N], and for all who suffer from the unjust, violent, or wasteful use of the earth's resources or their devastation by war, that all may one day live in communities of justice and peace, we pray:

**Merciful God, sustain your planet and people in peace.**

For the gifts of science and technology and for those who practice these skills, that they may be wise, visionary, and compassionate in their work, we pray:

**Merciful God, sustain your planet and people in peace.**

For your Church, that we your people may use our gifts and resources thoughtfully and responsibly and shine as your light in the world, thankful for those of your servants who minister to us, [giving thanks especially for the work in ministry of N], we pray:

**Merciful God, sustain your planet and people in peace.**

For the creatures and the people of the earth whose lives and deaths have contributed to the fruitful abundance of this planet [giving thanks especially for N]

**Merciful God, sustain your planet and people in peace.**

### **Prayer for Choosing an Incumbent**

Bountiful God,  
give this parish a faithful pastor  
who will faithfully speak your word  
and minister your sacraments;  
an encourager,  
who will equip your people for ministry  
and enable us to fulfil our calling.  
Give to those who will choose,  
wisdom, discernment and patience,  
and to us give warm and generous hearts,  
for Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen.**

**The celebrant concludes the prayers with these words.**

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

**Grant that what we have asked in faith  
we may by your grace receive,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THE GREETING OF PEACE

We are the body of Christ!

**His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

## Offertory Hymn

*Lord Jesus Christ [TIS 526]*

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.

Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,  
which earth has given and human hands have made.

It will become for us the bread of life

**Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.

Through your goodness we have this wine to offer.

Fruit of the vine and work of human hands,  
it will become our spiritual drink

**Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.

Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.

Accept and use our offerings for your glory  
and for the service of your kingdom.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right to praise you, faithful God,  
always and everywhere,  
for with your only begotten Son  
and life-giving Spirit,  
you are the one true God from everlasting to everlasting.

At the dawn of time you wrought from nothing  
a universe of beauty and splendour,  
bringing light from darkness  
and order from chaos.

You formed us, male and female, in your image,  
and endowed us with creative power.  
We turned away from you but you did not abandon us.  
You called us by name and searched us out,  
making a covenant of mercy,  
giving the law, and teaching justice by the prophets.

And so we praise you,  
joining with your faithful people of every time and place,  
singing the eternal song:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

When the fullness of time was come,  
you sent your Son to be born of Mary.  
Bright image of your glory,  
he learnt obedience to you in all things,  
even to death on a cross,  
breaking the power of evil,  
freeing us from sin, and putting death to flight.  
You raised him from death,  
exalting him to glory,  
and the new day dawned.

On the night he was betrayed  
your Son Jesus Christ shared food with his friends,  
his companions on the way.  
While at table he took bread,  
blessed, and broke it,  
and giving it to them, said:  
'Take, eat; this is my body.'

He took a cup of wine,  
and, giving thanks, he gave it to them, and said,  
'This is my blood of the covenant,  
which is poured out for many.  
Do this in remembrance of me.'

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Therefore, living God, as we obey his command,  
we remember his life of obedience to you,  
his suffering and death,  
his resurrection and exaltation,  
and his promise to be with us for ever.  
With this bread and this cup  
we celebrate his saving death until he comes.

Accept, we pray, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,  
and send your Holy Spirit upon us and our celebration  
that all who eat and drink at this table  
may be strengthened by Christ's body and blood  
to serve you in the world.

As one body and one holy people,  
may we proclaim the everlasting gospel  
of Jesus Christ our Lord,  
through whom, with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory is yours, eternal God, now and for ever.

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to 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.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.  
We who are many are one body,  
for we all share in the one bread.

### **Agnus dei**

Jesus, lamb of God, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

### **Invitation to the Table**

The gifts of God for the people of God.  
Holy things for holy people.  
Broken things for broken people.

## **AFTER HOLY COMMUNION**

### **Kids Time With God**

### **Notices**

### **Mission Hymn**

*Praise with joy the world's Creator* [TIS 179]

## THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Bountiful God, at this table you graciously feed us with the bread of life and the cup of eternal salvation. May we who have reached out our hands to receive this sacrament be strengthened in your service; we who have sung your praises tell of your glory and truth in our lives; we who have seen the greatness of your love see you face to face in your kingdom and come to worship you with all your saints for ever.

Father,

**we offer ourselves to you  
as a living sacrifice  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory.**

May God who established the dance of creation;  
who transforms chaos to order,  
lead us and empower us to transform  
... our lives,  
... the witness of the Church and  
... the governments of nations  
so that all might preserve and reflect  
the glory of God revealed in creation;  
and the blessing of God almighty;  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

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