A Service of the Word for Creationtide



St Cuthbert's Church, Allendale St Mark's Church, Ninebanks Holy Trinity Church, Whitfield

A Service of the Word

for Creationtide

Gathering and greeting

- God in Christ has revealed his glory.
- Come let us worship.

 From the rising of the sun to its setting
- the Lord's name is greatly to be praised. Give him praise, you servants of the Lord.
- **All** O praise the name of the Lord!

Welcome and introduction to the service.

Opening prayer

- We praise you, living God:
 you give strength to the earth that sustains us,
 you open your hand to feed all living things.
- We praise you, Lord Jesus Christ: you teach us with stories of seeds and weeds and harvest time, you call us to accept your word and bear much fruit.
- We praise you, Holy Spirit, fire of love: you are the breath of life in every creature, you refresh our thirsty souls with grace.
- All Blessed be God, Source of Wisdom, living Word, abiding Spirit, blessed be God for ever.

Confession Absolution

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:

All 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:

All 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:

All forgive us and help us.

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

All 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:

All forgive us and help us.

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

All Amen.

The Collect

We pray together in silence, which is drawn together by the collect for Creationtide.

Holy God, earth and air and water are your creation, and every living thing belongs to you: have mercy on us as climate change confronts us. Give us the will and the courage to simplify the way we live, to reduce the energy we use, to share the resources you provide, and to bear the cost of change. Forgive our past mistakes and send us your Spirit, with wisdom in present controversies and vision for the future to which you call us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Bible Reading

If the reading is to be the Gospel set for today, the reader says

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end the reader says

This is the Gospel of the Lord

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Address

Affirmation of faith

Let us declare our faith in God.

All We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named. We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love. We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high. We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

These or other intercessions are offered

Let us pray for our own needs and for the needs of others, following the pattern which Jesus gave when he taught us to pray to God our Father.

Through our love of the countryside, through our care for commuters and farmers, through our care for animals and wildlife, through our respect for property and tools:

All Father, hallowed be your name.

On our farms and in our homes, in our colleges and schools, where machinery is made, and where policy is planned:

All Father, your kingdom come.

By our seeking your guidance, by our keeping your commandments, by our living true to our consciences:

All Father, your will be done.

For the millions who live in poverty and hunger, for our own needs, and the requirements of our neighbours, by cooperation, sympathy and generosity:

All give us today our daily bread.

Because we have broken your commandments, doing what we ought not to do and failing as good stewards of your creation;

All forgive us our sins.

If any have injured us by injustice, double dealing or exploitation:

we forgive those who sin against us.

When prosperity lulls us to false security, or hard times prompt us to despair, When success makes us boastful, or failure makes us bitter:

All lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

In the assurance of faith, in the confidence of hope, in the will to serve, help us to love Christ as Lord, and our neighbour as ourselves.

for the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever.

Amen.

If intercessions other than those above are used, the Lord's Prayer is said at this point.

We draw our worship to a close

Creator God, you give seed for us to sow, and bread for us to eat; make us thankful for what we have received and generous in supplying the needs of others so all the world may give you thanks and glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Go in strong and growing faith. Trust in the tenderness of Christ to heal a bruised and broken world.

All Thanks be to God.

Go in eager and refreshing hope. Work with Christ risen from the dead, to fulfil the promise of a new creation.

All Thanks be to God.

Let us go in peace, to treasure and to tend the world God made and loves.

In the name of Christ, Amen.