

**St Andrew's and St George's West**  
**Order of Service 19th September 2021**

**“Lord of Creation”**



**Organ Preludes**    *Arvo Pärt, Pari Intervallo*  
                              *Flor Peeters, Adagio from 'Suite Modale'*

**Welcome** Barbara Finlayson

**Call to Worship**

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars,  
which you have set in place,

**what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?**

You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet:

**all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild,**

the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.

**Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!**

**Hymn 147 All creatures of our God and King** (*Verses 1,3,5 and 7*)

All creatures of our God and King,  
lift up your voice and with us sing  
alleluia, alleluia!

Bright brother sun with golden beam,  
clear sister moon with softer gleam:

O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Cool flowing water, pure and clear,  
make music for your Lord to hear,  
alleluia, alleluia!  
Fire, with your flames so fierce and bright,  
giving to all both warmth and light:  
O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

And all who are of tender heart,  
forgiving others, take your part,  
O praise him, alleluia!  
All who long pain and sorrow bear,  
praise God and cast on him your care.  
O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless,  
and worship God in humbleness,  
O praise him, alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:  
O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

### **Opening Prayer**

Lord, Father and Creator, we come to You this morning,  
Gathered, in person and remotely from our disparate places,  
Gathered by Your call and Your love,  
**We come to Your loving open arms.**

Still our hearts, open our eyes, and make us eager,  
Eager to sing Your praise,  
Eager to hear Your word,  
Eager to know You more deeply,  
**We come to Your loving open arms.**

Help us O God, to find happiness,  
happiness in the simple things of life,  
happiness as Your people, and in care for Your creation.  
**We come to Your loving open arms.**

Yet, often, we are unhappy, Lord. The truth is hard to bear. Humanity suffers the consequences of injustice, with the poor finding life ever more precarious. We consume but are blind to the sweatshop workers, we heat our homes and fill our stomachs, oblivious of the millions who cannot. Lord, open our eyes, that we may see the world as it really is. Give us the fire to fight injustice. Give us a hunger for righteousness. Lord, give us time to find happiness again, help us to know that true happiness lies only in Your love – for ourselves and all Your people.  
**May we all rest in Your loving open arms.**

And now we unite these our prayers as we say together the words which Jesus taught us,

**Our Father in heaven.  
Hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come,  
Your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us in the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever.  
Amen**

**Children’s videos, introduced by Katie McNeill:** Top tips - good climate suggestions from Eilidh, Isla, Edward, Toby and Oscar

**Scripture Readings** (New International Version)

**Genesis 2:4-9, 15-22 Adam and Eve**

This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, when the Lord God made the earth and the heavens.

Now no shrub had yet appeared on the earth and no plant had yet sprung up, for the Lord God had not sent rain on the earth and there was no one to work the ground, but streams came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground. Then the Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

Now the Lord God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. The Lord God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

...

The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. And the Lord God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.”

The Lord God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.”

Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals.

But for Adam no suitable helper was found. So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

### **Mark 9:2-10 The Transfiguration**

After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)

Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!"

Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They kept the matter to themselves, discussing what "rising from the dead" meant.

### **Hymn 97 O God, You search me and You know me**

O God, you search me and you know me.  
All my thoughts lie open to your gaze.  
When I walk or lie down you are before me:  
ever the maker and keeper of my days.

You know my resting and my rising.  
You discern my purpose from afar,  
and with love everlasting you besiege me:  
in every moment of life or death, you are.

Before a word is on my tongue, Lord,  
you have known its meaning through and through.  
You are with me beyond my understanding:  
God of my present, my past and future, too.

Although your Spirit is upon me,  
still I search for shelter from your light.  
There is nowhere on earth I can escape you:  
even the darkness is radiant in your sight.

For you created me and shaped me,  
gave me life within my mother's womb.  
For the wonder of who I am, I praise you:  
safe in your hands, all creation is made new.

## **Sermon "Lord of Creation"**

**Music for Reflection** *Edward Elgar, Vesper Voluntary No. 3, Andantino*

### **Prayers for others**

We give thanks and pray for those who point the way for us - teachers and church leaders and those who encourage us to care for our planet

Lord in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer**

We give thanks and pray for those in government - politicians, in Scotland, the UK and the wider world

Lord in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer**

We give thanks and pray for those whom we love and for those we are learning to love - our friends, our family, our church family at 13 George Street and beyond

Lord in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer**

We pray for those who are ill or vulnerable; and for ourselves - and thank you for your love that encompasses us all

Lord in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer**

We pray for those abroad, in Afghanistan, in Yemen, in South Korea;  
and a special prayer for the World Week of prayer for peace in Palestine and Israel -

Compassionate God,  
In our minds, we pray among  
the unholy mess of demolitions  
in the land that we call Holy.

In our hearts we hold  
families who have lost their homes,  
children who have seen their schools destroyed,  
communities which no longer have a clinic.  
We pray for them as they weep for all that's lost.  
We pray that they will not lose hope.

And we pray, too, for  
the men who drive the bulldozers,  
soldiers who beat back protesters,  
politicians who sign the orders -  
aware that such actions destroy their humanity.

Bless those who campaign against injustice;

bless the patient rebuilders;  
bless those who hope against hope  
that peace with justice will prevail  
in the land that we call Holy.

**Amen**

### **Baptism of Catherine Ita Mae Stapleton (“Kitty”)**

#### **The Apostles’ Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen

#### **Hymn 796 The Lord Bless You and keep You**

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
the Lord make his face to shine upon you,  
and be gracious unto you;  
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you  
and give you peace.

#### **Hymn 166 Lord of all hopefulness**

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy,  
be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,  
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,  
be there at our labours, and give us, we pray,  
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,  
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,  
be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,  
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,  
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,  
be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,  
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

## **Benediction**

**Organ voluntary** *Franz Schmidt, Prelude in D ('Hallelujah')*

Worship leaders: Rev Douglas Reid, Rev Colin Douglas, Katie McNeill

Organist: Alasdair Grant

Technical team: Alison Bruce, Susan McLarty, Mary Margaret Scott, Philippa Burgess, Amy Marcham

Sources:

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Scripture readings taken from the New International Version

All hymns from Church Hymnary 4th edition

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