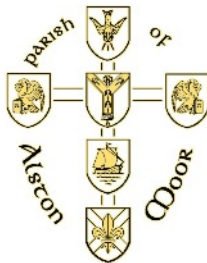


To our Visitors

Thank you
for worshipping with us today.

We thank God
for your presence in worship,
and we invite you to join us again soon.
Until then, then, we wish you God speed
and a safe journey.



Prayer & Praise

in the



Welcome

If you have a query,
please speak to the welcomer on duty,
who will be glad to help you.

Prayer Requests

If you would like us to pray for someone or
something specific during the service,
please speak to the welcomer.

A Word to Children

You are very welcome
at all our services.
We want you to feel comfortable
and able to join in,
and we don't mind a bit of noise!

Common Worship: Services & Prayers for the Church of England, New Patterns for Worship and A Time for Creation, material from which is included in this service, are copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000-2020.

The Greeting is adapted from the *Season of Creation 2020 Celebration Guide*

The Opening Responses are from the United Reformed Church's *Worship Resources for a Climate Sunday Service*

The Blessing is from the *CTBI Eco Congregation programme*

If you are in the church building

Standing, sitting, kneeling

This booklet suggests where to stand
(typically, to praise God),
to sit (to receive from God)
and to kneel (to ask from God).

But feel free to stand, sit or kneel at any
time, as you are most comfortable.

Loop System



This church is equipped with a loop system:
please set hearing aids to the “T” position.

Livestreaming

This service will be livestreamed on Zoom
and YouTube. If you prefer not to be filmed,
please ask the welcomer where to sit.





If you are joining in online

Where to find us

Find us on Zoom (Meeting 357 123 751)
or at www.alstonmoor.tiny.us/youtube

You may like to prepare ...

-  the Easter candle, or another candle,
and something to light it with
-  a Bible and hymnbook – or today's
readings and hymns from our website

Microphones

Please keep your microphone muted,
except when you are joining in
the responses or prayers

Livestreaming

The service will be livestreamed on Zoom
and YouTube. If you are uncomfortable with
being seen online, or on a screen in church,
please turn off your camera.



Leaving in God's Strength

The Lord be with you

All **And also with you.**



Refreshed by the touch of the Creator

All **we journey on, singing God's praise.**



Redeemed by the love of Christ

All **we journey on, singing God's praise.**



Renewed by the dance of the Spirit

All **we journey on, singing God's praise**

Either:

THE GRACE

All **The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore.
Amen.**



Let us bless the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Or:

THE BLESSING

This or another suitable blessing is used

May the Earth sustain your strength;
may Christ sustain your love;
may you sustain one another's joy;
may you live as a blessing
to God, to the Earth and to humanity:

and *may* the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among *us* and remain with *us* always.

All **Amen.**



Tend the earth,
care for God's good creation,
and bring forth the fruits of righteousness.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

We sit or kneel to pray the Lord's Prayer, in whichever version or language we wish

- ◆ Together with all creation,
which in its own way loves its Creator;
together with the Church around the world;
let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Either:

All Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

Or:

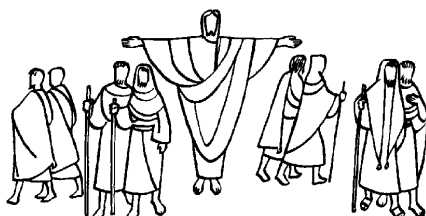
All Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen.

We sit

Notices may be read and **Banns of Marriage**
published

HYMN

We stand



SEASON OF CREATION

Every act of worship should be one that is thankful for all of the mysteries and wonders of God's creation but, in a special way, the Season of Creation follows the Psalmists' call to join our song of praise with the forests, rivers and fields who bring their own praise to the Creator.

Our common home is crying out to be cherished, and our thankful praise should stir us to action and to tread more gently on the earth and care for our shared environment.

In recent years the Church of England, along with the Orthodox Churches, the Roman Catholic Church and any other churches, has observed the Season of Creation from 1st September to the feast of St Francis of Assisi (4th October), as a time for the whole church to proclaim

"The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it."



Gathering as God's People

THE WELCOME

Please stand as the ministers enter

Welcome in the name of Christ.

God's grace, mercy and peace be with you

All and also with you.

Words of welcome may be said.

We gather in the image of the Creator

All who is a community of love.

◆ We gather in the name of the Redeemer

All who reconciles all of creation.

We gather in the presence of the Life Giver

All who inspires new life and renews it.

◆ Whether present in this building,
or joining in online

All We are united in the love of Christ.

We light our candles as a sign of Christ's presence
among us

O Lord, open our lips,

All and our mouths
shall proclaim your praise.

HYMN

OPENING RESPONSES

- Seek advice from the beasts
All And they will enlighten you
- From the birds in the sky
All And they will show you
- Speak to the Earth
All And Earth will teach you;
- For which of these does not know?
All All life is in God's hand!

SAYING SORRY, BEING FORGIVEN

These or other appropriate words are said

- ◆ All creation speaks of God's glory,
yet too often we abuse it.
Trusting in God's forgiveness,
let us confess our failings
and acknowledge our part
in the pain of the world.

We sit or kneel

*Silence is kept, then words of penitence are said, with
the following responses*

Either

- ◆ ... Lord, have mercy.
All Lord, have mercy.
- ◆ ... Christ, have mercy.
All Christ, have mercy.
- ◆ ... Lord, have mercy.
All Lord, have mercy.

Or

- ◆ ... in your mercy:
All forgive us and help us.

*The minister assures us of God's forgiveness, in these
or other words*

- May the Father of all mercies
cleanse us from our sins,
and restore us in his image
to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All Amen.

Millions upon millions invite us
to be one with them
in the drama of worship.

All We give you thanks and praise.

In heaven, beyond our seeing,
the angels and saints are caught up in song.
And those we have loved and lost
are part of that great company.
They call us to be one
with the harmony of heaven.

All We give you thanks and praise.

So, gladly, we join our voices
to those of earth, sea and sky,
in the universal hymn of praise
which echoes through time and eternity:

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

Creator God,
as we praise you for your goodness,
with Jesus we pray
for the beautiful but hurting world
you have entrusted to us.
May healing and joy abound,
justice and peace prevail,
the year of the Lord's favour be known
and your resurrection life
quicken your people
as we proclaim with confidence:

**All Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

As your Spirit groans
for the renewal of all creation,
send your Spirit on us
that we may be channels of your peace,
witnesses to your hope,
and dwellers in your joy,
through Jesus Christ,
life-giver, pain-bearer, love-maker.

All Amen.



Giving Thanks to God

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

We stand

The minister introduces the Peace with words such as

Deep peace of the running wave to you.
Deep peace of the flowing air to you.
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.
Deep peace of the shining stars to you.

The deep peace of the Prince of Peace
be always with you.

All **And also with you**

◆ Let us offer one another a sign of peace

All may exchange a sign of peace with immediate neighbours, for example in sign language, or with a handshake and greeting such as "Peace be with you"

HYMN

The Offertory is taken during this hymn



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We remain standing

The Lord is here

All **His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

For you, Creator God,
the valleys laugh and sing
and the trees of the field clap their hands.

Your earth summons us to break silence
and be one with the song of creation.

All **We give you thanks and praise.**

For you, God of all,
the church in its myriad forms
and countless languages honours its Saviour.

◆ Blessed is the Lord,
All **for he has heard
the voice of our prayer;**

◆ therefore shall our hearts dance for joy
All **and in our song
will we praise our God.**

THE COLLECT (PRAYER FOR THE WEEK)

After a period of silent prayer the minister says the Collect and we respond

All **Amen.**



Listening & Responding to God

READINGS

We sit as we listen to readings from the Bible

At the end of each the reader says

Into ancient words

All **you breathe new life.**

A Psalm may also be read

HYMN

We stand

GOSPEL READING

We remain standing

The Gospel is introduced with an acclamation such as

◆ Alleluia, alleluia.
God has spoken to us through his Son,
through whom he created the worlds.

All **Alleluia**

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

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the end

◆ This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

ACTIVITY

We may have an activity for those who are young, or young at heart – either now or at another point

SERMON OR REFLECTION

We sit



AFFIRMING AND COMMITTING

We stand

Either

◆ Let us declare our faith in God.
All **We believe and trust
in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist.**

**We believe and trust
in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again.**

**We believe and trust
in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world.**

**We believe and trust in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Or

Act of Commitment to Care of Creation

◆ 'While all creatures stand in expectation,
what will be the result of our liberty?'
Thomas Traherne

◆ As the whole of creation
looks with eager longing
for the redemption of humankind,
let us pledge ourselves anew
to serve our Creator God,
the Father who is the maker of all things,
the Son through whom all things are made,
the Holy Spirit, the giver of life,
who renews the face of the earth.

Let us affirm our commitment
to care actively for God's creation.

All **Lord of life and giver of hope,
we pledge ourselves
to care for creation,
to reduce our waste,
to live sustainably,
and to value the rich diversity of life.
May your wisdom guide us,
that life in all its forms may flourish,
and may be faithful
in voicing creation's praise.**

May the commitment we have made this day
be matched by our faithful living.

All **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

PRAYING FOR OTHERS

We sit or kneel

The prayers usually include

- ◆ *The Church of Christ*
- ◆ *Creation and the environment*
- ◆ *Human society, the Queen, those in authority*
- ◆ *The local community*
- ◆ *Those who suffer*
- ◆ *The communion of saints*



One of these responses, or another, may be used

Lord, in your mercy

All **Hear our prayer.**

Or

Lord, hear us

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Or

Lord, your will be done



All **Through our lives and by our prayers,**



your King - dom come.

And at the end

Merciful Father

All **Accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**