

PARISH of ALSTON MOOR

# 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!

## **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](http://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.



## 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 1<sup>st</sup> September to the feast of St Francis of Assisi (4<sup>th</sup> 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.**

- ◆ 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.



## **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.

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.**



## 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:***

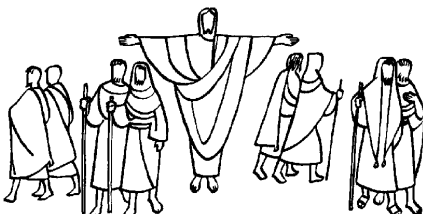
***All*** Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the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





## **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.**



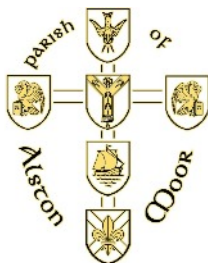
Tend the earth,  
care for God's good creation,  
and bring forth the fruits of righteousness.  
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

# 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.



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*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*