## 

## Welcome to Worship 24th September 2023

Today we venture from the known to the unknown.

We set out on a journey of faith, from the familiar to the unfamiliar,

**yet we, t**rust God for each step of the way

We discover anew our relationship with all living things

A kinship with all that has God- given breath,  
feathers, wings, scales, bright eyes and song,

With the trees of the field and the rocks of the earth

**Let us all cry out in the worship of our God, Creator of all !**

## **[‘Praise with joy the world’s creator](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nlpo20UTCrA) TiS 179 D..A x4**

Praise the Spirit sent among us,  
liberating truth from pride,  
forging bonds where race or gender,  
age or nation dare divide.  
Celebrate the Spirit’s treasure:  
foolishness none dare deride.

## Reference Michael and Ossie Cruse Bible Study

known to the unknown’’, what did we discover?

from the familiar to the unfamiliar’’, what was made clear to you**?**

**As we t**rusted God each step of the way’’, what did we discover afresh or anew in our relationship with each other, especially with our indigenous brothers and sisters?

Perhaps we thought of things for which we are thankful?

For these things we offer God our thankfulness, our gratitude.

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

*Prayer for Season of Creation, by Val Brown, Head of Christian Aid Scotland*

God of all people,

Thankyou for the positive relationships we can enjoy in our community with our indigenous neighbours and friends.

Thankyou that together we can make a positive difference in the wellbeing and future of our children and children’s children,

Thankyou for the example of indigenous stewardship of this land and waters.

Thankyou for the opportunities to listen and learn and grow in knowledge and wisdom and faith.

Thankyou of cultural regard for all creatures;  
We thank you God for the world that you have created,  
Where each ecosystem lives in delicate balance  
And where the world produces the food and the clean water  
that we all need to sustain life.  
The bounty of the harvest is a testament to the wonder of creation.  
And yet we know that all creation is groaning  
The weather isn’t what it was and that throws out the created balance  
Making it harder for farmers to grow the food we all need.  
Thank you for the efforts of people locally, nationally and globally to care for  
your world  
For the people who use their creative energy to work for solutions,  
For the people who raise their voices to call for justice,  
For the people who make small changes every day to tread more lightly on the  
earth.

May we all learn to live simply, so that others can simply live.  
Amen

Perhaps we thought of things for which we ought be sorry , or challenges to change, or for which we need courage or creativity, instruction or correction.

Often we come before our God with a sense of falling short of His example in Christ and reminded our responsibilities and calling.

We might be aware of the wrong things we have done or said or thought in our relationships with others, or we might agonise over the state of God’s creation for which our stewardship has been lacking in true care and regard.

## **Prayer of Confession**

In a moment of silence name these things in your heart to God our Father, who loves us with a redeeming Love. Then we will conclude our time of prayer with

the prayer our Lord Taught Us, which will be projected on the screen.

**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 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 forever. Amen**

## **Word of Assurance**

We are assured of forgiveness by Gods word,

# **1 John 1:9 CEV** But if we confess our sins to God, he can always be trusted to forgive us and take our sins away.

## **Offering**

## **Notices**

## Faith conversations

## Ruth ?

## **[‘Inspired by love and anger’](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bp2bsBelbUA) TiS 674 G^ G x6**

The phrase "**Think globally, act locally**" or "**Think global, act local**" has been used in various contexts, including planning, environment, education, mathematics, business and the church.

 The quote implies that starting with local actions can give you the courage and energy to take global actions. A good way to address big issues in our small corner of life.

Michael is now going to guide us and the kids in a process of , *Think Globally Act Locally*, as an acknowledgement of Sustainability Sunday Another Bible reading?

## **Michael’s Talk**

## **Reading Matthew 20:1-16 Jim W**

## **Sermon: Leone.**

I invite you now to sit and listen and think about the way that Jesus and his teaching and example rocks the world? Thankyou Leone for choosing this song.

## **[Jesus Rocks the World](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tRLpOgNLlXg)- Colin Buchanan**

*You might have thought of Jesus who Rocks Our Souls In The Bosom Of Abraham as the old song says, or Rock A Bye Baby, the soothing rock of a nursing mother, or the disturbing rocking of the earth as in a ‘’natural disaster’’ or those consequences or poor stewardship of the land, forests and rivers or shoddy buildings that lacked the safeguards of justice and attention to the wellbeing of the poor.*

*Rock My soul - Louis Armstrong - thinking about the Judgement Day being sinful, a liar and a back biter…crying our for a redeemer!*

*I like to think of Rock A Bye Bab , from distress to calm, from anxiety to gentle breathing.*

*Maybe not said?? Pam to use discretion here.*

## **Psalm 105:1-6 – Jim W**

## **Prayers for Others – Pam**

Situations in which people find their lives rocked by the unforeseen.

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Those affected by drought

Hope, comfort, direction. Peace, forgiveness

## [**‘God gives us a future’**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=64lXkcwZ06M) **TiS 687 C^ C**

## **Sending Out and Blessing**

## May you be, this week, a blessing to Your families and your neigbours

## May you be a blessing to the Earth, And all God’s creatures.

May you be granted God’s Peace in difficult circumstances

May your decisions be enlightened by God’s Love and Grace. in peace now to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. Amen.

# Matthew 20:1-16 Contemporary English Version

### Workers in a Vineyard

As Jesus was telling what the kingdom of heaven would be like, he said:

Early one morning a man went out to hire some workers for his vineyard. After he had agreed to pay them the usual amount for a day's work, he sent them off to his vineyard.

About nine that morning, the man saw some other people standing in the market with nothing to do. He promised to pay them what was fair, if they would work in his vineyard. So they went.

At noon and again about three in the afternoon he returned to the market. And each time he made the same agreement with others who were loafing around with nothing to do.

Finally, about five in the afternoon the man went back and found some others standing there. He asked them, “Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?”

“Because no one has hired us,” they answered. Then he told them to go work in his vineyard.

That evening the owner of the vineyard told the man in charge of the workers to call them in and give them their money. He also told the man to begin with the ones who were hired last. When the workers arrived, the ones who had been hired at five in the afternoon were given a full day's pay.

The workers who had been hired first thought they would be given more than the others. But when they were given the same, they began complaining to the owner of the vineyard. They said, “The ones who were hired last worked for only one hour. But you paid them the same that you did us. And we worked in the hot sun all day long!”

The owner answered one of them, “Friend, I didn't cheat you. I paid you exactly what we agreed on. Take your money now and go! What business is it of yours if I want to pay them the same that I paid you? Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Why should you be jealous, if I want to be generous?”

Jesus then said, “So it is. Everyone who is now last will be first, and everyone who is first will be last.”

# Exodus 16:2-15 Contemporary English Version

There in the desert they started complaining to Moses and Aaron, “We wish the Lord had killed us in Egypt. When we lived there, we could at least sit down and eat all the bread and meat we wanted. But you have brought us out here into this desert, where we are going to starve.”

The Lord said to Moses, “I will send bread down from heaven like rain. Tell the people to go out each day and gather only enough for that day. That's how I will see if they obey me. But on the sixth day of each week they must gather and cook twice as much.”

Moses and Aaron told the people, “This evening you will know that the Lord was the one who rescued you from Egypt. And in the morning you will see his glorious power, because he has heard your complaints against him. Why should you grumble to us? Who are we?”

Then Moses continued, “You will know it is the Lord when he gives you meat each evening and more than enough bread each morning. He is really the one you are complaining about, not us—we are nobodies—but the Lord has heard your complaints.”

Moses turned to Aaron and said, “Bring the people together, because the Lord has heard their complaints.”

Aaron was speaking to them, when everyone looked out toward the desert and saw the bright glory of the Lord in a cloud. The Lord said to Moses, “I have heard my people complain. Now tell them that each evening they will have meat and each morning they will have more than enough bread. Then they will know that I am the Lord their God.”

That evening a lot of quails came and landed everywhere in the camp, and the next morning dew covered the ground. After the dew had gone, the desert was covered with thin flakes that looked like frost. The people had never seen anything like this, and they started asking each other, “What is it?”

Moses answered, “This is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.

# Psalm 105:1-6 Contemporary English Version

### The Lord Can Be Trusted

Praise the Lord and pray in his name!  
Tell everyone what he has done.  
Sing praises to the Lord!  
    Tell about his miracles.  
Celebrate and worship his holy name with all your heart.

Trust the Lord and his mighty power.  
Remember his miracles and all his wonders and his fair decisions.  
You belong to the family of Abraham, his servant;  
you are his chosen ones, the descendants of Jacob.

# Psalm 105:37-45

When God led Israel from Egypt, they took silver and gold, and no one was left behind.  
The Egyptians were afraid and gladly let them go.  
God hid them under a cloud and guided them by fire  during the night.

When they asked for food, he sent more birds than they could eat.  
God even split open a rock, and streams of water gushed into the desert.  
God never forgot his sacred promise to his servant Abraham.

When the Lord rescued his chosen people from Egypt, they celebrated with songs.  
The Lord gave them the land and everything else the nations had worked for.  
He did this so that his people would obey all his laws.  
    Shout praises to the Lord!

# Philippians 1:21-30 Contemporary English Version

If I live, it will be for Christ, and if I die, I will gain even more. I don't know what to choose. I could keep on living and doing something useful. It is a hard choice to make. I want to die and be with Christ, because this would be much better. But I know that all of you still need me. This is why I am sure I will stay on to help you grow and be happy in your faith. Then, when I visit you again, you will have good reason to take great pride in Christ Jesus because of me.

Above all else, you must live in a way that brings honour to the good news about Christ. Then, whether I visit you or not, I will hear that all of you think alike. I will know that you are working together and are struggling side by side to get others to believe the good news.

Be brave when you face your enemies. Your courage will show them that they are going to be destroyed, and it will show you that you will be saved. God will make all of this happen, and he has blessed you. Not only do you have faith in Christ, but you suffer for him. You saw me suffer, and you still hear about my troubles. Now you must suffer in the same way.