

26 SEPTEMBER 2021
HOME SERVICE GUIDE
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Season of Creation: Week 4
Pray and Act for our Common Home

A very warm welcome to everyone who has joined us for our worship service this morning.



Welcome & Greeting

Call to Worship

Creator, God, we come before You today with open minds and loving hearts. We thank you for the gift of Your creation and all You have given us. We are called to be your disciples, teach us how to build a world of love, justice and peace and to be better stewards of Your creation. **Amen**

The Angelus prayer from Archbishop Thabo

**God bless the world,
Give it wisdom at this time,
Grant us relief and release,
Be with those who are ill,
And bless the carers fighting this pandemic,
For Jesus Christ's sake. Amen**

INTRODUCTION

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Praise the Lord
Praise him you servants of the Lord

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Blessed be his name, now and for ever

Gloria

**Glory to God in the highest
And peace to his people on earth.
Lord, God heavenly King
almighty God and Father
we worship you, we give you thanks
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father
Lord God, Lamb of God
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One
you alone are the Lord
you alone are the Most High
Jesus Christ
with the Holy Spirit
in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

Collect for Purity (APB 105)

**Almighty God
to whom all hearts are open
all desires known
and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy Name;
through Christ our Lord**

Penitence

Let us confess our sins:

Loving God, you have invited us into relationship with You, and others. For the times where we have turned away and broken bonds between us.

Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

You have given us many gifts to share with one another. For the time when we have used them without regard for others.

Christ, have mercy
Christ, have mercy

You invited us to be Your disciples in the world. For the time when we have rejected Your invitation and taken our own path,
Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

Absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you, pardon your sins and set you free from them; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Collect: Season of Creation: Week 4

**God, creator of the universe: Fill us with your love for the whole of creation,
Awake in us the passion to work for your world with passion and boldness
Lift us up on eagles' wings, so that we may not be overwhelmed by the task ahead.
In the power of the Holy Spirit who renews the face of the Earth.
Amen**

Our Parish Prayer

**Lord our God, thank you for calling St Augustine's to be your church in our city. Help us to welcome you in all people, to praise you in prayer and worship, to love you, through serving this parish and the community, to travel and grow in faith together, to be a community of love and service in our world through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

First Reading: Esther 7: 1-6, 9-10, 9: 20-22

Psalm: Psalm 124

Second Reading: James 5: 13-20

Hymn/Song: SOF 152 **Hallelujah my father**

**Hallelujah, My Father
For Giving Us Your Son**

**Sending Him Into The World
To Be Given Up For Men**

**Knowing We Would Bruise Him
And Smite Him From The Earth**

**Hallelujah, My Father
In His Death Is My Birth**

**Hallelujah, My Father
In His Life Is My Life**

(Repeat hymn)

Gospel: Mark 9: 38-50

Sermon

The Nicene Creed (APB p 108)

**We believe in one God
the Father, the Almighty
maker of heaven and earth
Of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ
the only Son of God
eternally begotten of the Father
God from God, Light from Light
true God from true God
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord the giver of life
who proceeds from the Father and the Son
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Let us pray:

We give thanks today for the many gifts God has given us: for the beauty of the earth and the abundance of its creatures, for food to nourish us and water to quench our thirst, for the seasons that nurture us. and the relationships that sustain us. May we be good stewards of creation, using our skills and talents for the benefit of all.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

We remember today all those whose lives are already affected by climate change, especially the poorest and most vulnerable throughout the world. We pray that God be with them and suffuse them with the gift of hope and strength to fight for a better world.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

We pray for our churches, around the world, that as communities of faith we may be active participants in work for climate justice. We pray for those in positions of leadership, that they may use their voices to speak out on behalf of those most vulnerable to climate change, and the whole of God's creation.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

We pray for ourselves, that we may recognise the invitation to discipleship as a gift. May we open ourselves to recognising the many people and places in which God works, building relationships with all who strive to protect God's creation.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Amen

The Peace (APB p 115)

Peace is God's gift, both peace with God the creator and peace with all creation. May our gesture be the expression of this gift. Let us give one another a sign of peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

(CAFOD)

Peace be with you.

The Presentation of Gifts (APB p116) Use Your Home-Made Collection Boxes.

Lord we thank you for all give to us. Out of your provision we bring this offering today, praying that you will bless it and guide us to use it well to build up your Kingdom here.

Amen

The Lord's Prayer

(a new version of the Our Father as translated from ancient Aramaic, by Neil Douglas Klotz)

O Birther! Father-Mother of the Cosmos;

Focus your light within us – make it useful;

**Create your reign of unity now – Your one desire then acts with ours,
as in all light, so in all forms.**

Grant what we need each day in bread and insight.

Loose the cords of mistakes binding us, as we release the strands we hold of others' guilt.

Don't let surface things delude us, But free us from what holds us back.

From you is born all ruling will, the power and the life to do, the song that beautifies all, from age to age it renews.

Truly – power to these statements – may they be the ground from which all my actions grow. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Draw near and receive the body broken and blood poured out. Christ was sacrificed for the world and by his wounds we are healed.

Spiritual Communion prayer (APB p 516)

One who is unable to receive the Sacrament physically may make a spiritual communion, and be certain that Christ comes to them in this way as surely as he does in the Sacrament.

Jesus, may all that is you flow into me.

May your body and blood be my food and drink.

May your passion and death be my strength and life.

Jesus, with you by my side enough has been given.

May the shelter I seek be the shadow of your cross.

Let me not run from the love which you offer

But hold me safe from the forces of evil.

On each of my dyings shed your light and your love.

Keep calling to me until that day comes when, with your saints, I may praise you forever. Amen.

Conclusion (APB p 129)

Give thanks to God for God is gracious

God's mercy endures for ever.

God has restored us by the cross of Christ and renewed us with His word and sacrament.

Let us go forth into the world to renew and restore all that is broken, lost and hurting. **Amen**

Sending Out

A prayer for COP26

Father, we pray for you to raise up a generation of leaders with the courage to take responsibility for our changing climate, and the part we have played in it. We intercede for our politicians and leaders as they will gather at COP26 in Scotland. Move them to act in the

best interests of all nations today, and all peoples in the future, in order to avoid catastrophic changes.

We ask You to fill the hearts of all who lead rich nations. Give them your mercy and compassion on poor countries already suffering the effects of a changing climate. Just as they have been moved to cancel debt in the past, encourage them also to release funds so that poor communities can adapt to the effects of climate change, and develop cleanly. And inspire us, Mighty God, to amend our lives for the sake of your Earth, your climate, your people.

All: Lord, in your mercy, lead our leaders and us to truth and transformation. Amen

(Adapted from The Sanctuary Centre – climate change prayer)

Prayer for Africa

God, bless Africa
protect our children
transform our leaders
heal our communities
restore our dignity
and give us peace;
for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen

Lighting of a candle for climate justice

We light a candle for climate justice
Spirit of God, you established the dance of Creation:
Bring life out of death, bring order out of chaos.
Call us to radical action: to care for the web of Creation
To share our resources justly and to work for the renewal of our Mother, Earth.
We light this candle as we commit ourselves to act and pray for climate justice. **Amen**
(Archbishop Thabo Makgoba)

Blessing

As we lay our broken world and lives in sorrow at God's feet, may God's Spirit breathe on us with life and strength anew. May God's healing grace and love inspire us with new purpose as we pray and act together for our common home; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you, and all whom you love and pray for today and always. (Adapted from the hymn "We lay our broken world" by Anna Briggs)
Amen

Dismissal (APB 129)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.