

# Service of the Word for Pentecost 14 in Creation Time/Proper 23

## Introduction

Grace and peace to you from God our Creator and the Lord Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

*Welcome*

## Opening Responses

The Creator of the Universe  
calls us to leave the darkness  
and live in the light.

**Come, let us worship.**

Our Lord Jesus Christ  
who lived and died and rose again  
greet us this day.

**Come, let us worship.**

The One who danced at Creation's birth  
calls us now into His presence.

**Come, let us worship.**

*Eco Congregation Scotland, adapted.*

## Hymn

### **All creatures of our God and King**

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

**Thou burning sun with golden beam,  
thou silver moon with softer gleam,  
O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Thou rushing wind that art so strong,  
ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,  
O praise him, alleluia!**

**Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,  
ye lights of evening, find a voice,  
O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Thou flowing water, pure and clear,  
make music for thy Lord to hear,  
alleluia, alleluia!**

**Thou fire so masterful and bright,  
that givest man 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 sing ye, alleluia!  
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,**

praise God and on him cast your care,  
O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless,  
and worship him 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!

*Tune: Lass tuns erfreuen;*

*Words: St Francis of Assisi, (trans WH Draper. adapted)*

### **Confession & Absolution**

We give you thanks and praise, O God, for your good creation.  
For all that nourishes and sustains life.  
We confess that we have fallen short of your glory.

For our waste and pollution of your creation,  
and our lack of concern for those who come after us,  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For the wrongs we have done: for our blindness to human need and suffering,  
and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,  
**Christ, have mercy.**

For not loving you with our whole heart, mind and strength;  
nor loving our neighbours as ourselves,  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*Silence*

God, who is both power and love,  
forgive us and free us from our sins,  
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,  
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**Anthem**     *Brahms* How lovely are thy dwellings fair

### **Collect**

Source of all life, we give thanks to you for your wondrous creation made manifest in the environment that surrounds us; strengthen us in the mission of stewardship and care towards nature, the work of your hands, encouraging us to preserve life in all its precious forms. All this we ask through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Anglican Alliance*

**Reading**     Exodus 12.1–14

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it

from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 149**

**Sing to God  
in the congregation of the faithful.**

Alleluia! Sing to God a new song;  
sing praise in the congregation of the faithful.  
Let the people of Israel rejoice in their Maker;  
let the children of Zion be joyful in their Monarch.  
Let them praise God's Name in the dance;  
let them sing praise with timbrel and harp.

**Sing to God  
in the congregation of the faithful.**

For God takes pleasure in the people  
and adorns the poor with victory.  
Let the faithful rejoice in triumph;  
let them be joyful on their beds.  
Let the praises of God be in their throat  
and a two-edged sword in their hand,

**Sing to God  
in the congregation of the faithful.**

To wreak vengeance on the nations  
and punishment on the peoples;  
To bind their rulers in chains  
and their nobles with links of iron;  
To inflict on them the judgment decreed;  
this is glory for all God's faithful people. Alleluia!

**Sing to God  
in the congregation of the faithful.**

**Reading**      Romans 13.8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet'; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn**                      **Let all creation dance**

**Let all creation dance  
in energies sublime,  
as order turns with chance,  
unfolding space and time:  
for nature's art  
in glory grows,  
and newly shows  
God's mind and heart.**

**Our own amazing earth,  
with sunlight, cloud, and storms,  
and life's abundant growth  
in lovely shapes and forms  
is made for praise,  
a fragile whole,  
and from its soul  
heaven's music plays.**

**Lift heart and soul and voice:  
in Christ all praises meet,  
and nature shall rejoice  
as all is made complete.  
In hope be strong,  
all life befriend,  
and kindly tend  
creation's song.**

*Tune: Darwall's 148<sup>th</sup>; Words: Brian Wren*

**Gospel**                      Matthew 18.15-20

*When it is announced:* **Glory to Christ our Saviour.**

Jesus said, 'If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to

them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.'

At the end: Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.  
**Praise to Christ our Lord.**

**Sermon** The Very Rev'd John Conway, Provost

**Anthem** J.S. Bach *Wie furchtsam wankten meine Schritte from Allein zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ*

### **Affirmation of faith**

We belong to the Creator  
in whose image we are all made.  
**In God we are breathing,  
in God we are living,  
in God we share the life of all creation.**

We belong to Jesus Christ,  
the true icon of God and of humanity.  
**In him God is breathing,  
in him God is living,  
through him we are reconciled.**

We belong to the Holy Spirit,  
who gives us new life and strengthens our faith.  
**In the Spirit love is breathing,  
in the Spirit truth is living,  
the breath of God always moves us.**

We belong to the Holy Trinity,  
who is one in all and Three-in-One.  
**In God we are all made,  
in Christ we are all saved,  
in the Spirit we are all united.**

*Per Harling*

### **Intercessions**

*Prayer is offered for the world and all its people,  
particularly for those who suffer and those in need,  
and for the Church and its calling.*

*Prayers adapted from Anglican Alliance intercessions for the Season of Creation.*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Saviour Christ has commanded and taught us,  
we are bold to say:

**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**

## **Blessing**

May the One who adorns the poor,  
binds the rulers,  
and causes the people to rejoice,  
adorn you with love,  
bind all that seeks evil,  
and give you cause to rejoice  
and the blessing of Almighty God  
the Three-in-One  
be with you,  
and all whom you love,  
now and ever more.  
**Amen.**

*Eco Congregation Scotland*

## **Hymn**

### **Now thank we all our God**

**Now thank we all our God,  
With heart and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things hath done,  
In whom his world rejoices;  
Who from our mother's arms  
Hath blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love,  
And still is ours to-day.**

**O may this bounteous God  
Through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts  
And blessed peace to cheer us;  
And keep us in his grace,  
And guide us when perplexed,  
And free us from all ills  
In this world and the next.**

**All praise and thanks to God  
The Father now be given,  
The Son, and him who reigns  
With them in highest heaven,  
The One eternal God,  
Whom earth and heaven adore;  
For thus it was, is now,  
And shall be evermore. Amen.**

*Tune: Nun danket;  
Words: Martin Rinkart (trans Catherine Winkworth)*

## **Dismissal**

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

## **Voluntary**

*Eco Congregation Scotland material written by Rev Andy Braunston, United Reformed Church.  
Anglican Alliance material produced by Rev. Luiz Coelho, Episcopal Anglican Church of Brazil.*