

# Service of the Word for Creation Time 5/Feast of St Francis

## Introduction

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

*Welcome*

## Opening Responses

God, all powerful,  
**most holy, sublime ruler of all,**  
you alone are good—  
**supremely, fully, completely good,**  
may we render to you all praise,  
**all honour and all blessing:**  
may we always ascribe to you alone  
everything that is good.

*St Francis*

## Hymn                      Let us gladly with one mind

**Let us gladly with one mind  
praise the Lord, for he is kind:  
for his mercy shall endure,  
ever faithful, ever sure.**

**He created sky and sea,  
field and mountain, flower and tree:  
for his mercy shall endure,  
ever faithful, ever sure.**

**Every creature, great and small  
God alone has made them all:  
for his mercy shall endure,  
ever faithful, ever sure.**

**Then he fashioned humankind,  
crown of all that he designed:  
for his mercy shall endure,  
ever faithful, ever sure.**

**Glory then to God on high,  
'Glory!' let creation cry:  
for his mercy shall endure,  
ever faithful, ever sure.**

*Tune: Monkland;  
Words Michael Seward, after John Milton*

## Confession & Absolution

God our Maker and Sustainer,  
we confess to you our sins.

We have not lived at peace with one another  
but have trampled our fellow humans in the dust.  
**Forgive us, restore us, renew us.**

We have not lived at peace with other creatures  
but have turned countless species to dust.  
**Forgive us, restore us, renew us.**

We have not lived at peace with creation  
but devoured the earth and left it for dust.  
**Forgive us, restore us, renew us.**

## Kyrie *Leighton* from Missa Sancti Petri

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.**

## Collect

O God, you ever delight to reveal yourself to the childlike and lowly of heart: grant that, following the example of the blessed Francis, we may count the wisdom of this world as foolishness and know only Jesus Christ and him crucified, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## Reading Galatians 6.14–18

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

From now on, let no one make trouble for me; for I carry the marks of Jesus branded on my body.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

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

## Psalm 148.1-3, 7-14

**Praise, O praise the name of the Lord.**

Alleluia! Praise God from the heavens; \*  
sing praise in the heights.

Sing praise, all you angels; \*  
sing praise, all the heavenly host.

Sing praise, sun and moon; \*  
sing praise, all you shining stars.

**Praise, O praise the name of the Lord.**

Sing praise from the earth, \*  
you sea-monsters and all deeps;  
Fire and hail, snow and fog, \*  
tempestuous wind, doing God's will;  
Mountains and all hills, \*  
fruit trees and all cedars;  
Wild beasts and all cattle, \*  
creeping things and winged birds;  
**Praise, O praise the name of the Lord.**

Rulers of the earth and all peoples, \*  
judges and all leaders of the world;  
Young men and maidens, \*  
old and young together.  
**Praise, O praise the name of the Lord.**

Let them praise your Name, O God, \*  
for your Name only is exalted;  
your splendour is over earth and heaven.  
You have raised up strength for your people  
and praise for all your loyal servants, \*  
the children of Israel, a people who are near you. Alleluia!  
**Praise, O praise the name of the Lord.**

*St Helena Psalter*

## **Hymn                      Sing for God's glory**

**Sing for God's glory that colours the dawn of creation,  
racing across the sky, trailing bright clouds of elation;  
sun of delight  
succeeds the velvet of night,  
warming the earth's exultation.**

**Sing for God's power that shatters the chains that would bind us, s  
earing the darkness of fear and despair that could blind us,  
touching our shame  
with love that will not lay blame,  
reaching out gently to find us.**

**Sing for God's justice disturbing each easy illusion,  
tearing down tyrants and putting our pride to confusion;  
lifeblood of right,  
resisting evil and slight,  
offering freedom's transfusion.**

**Sing for God's saints who have travelled faith's journey before us,  
who in our weariness give us their hope to restore us;  
in them we see  
the new creation to be,  
spirit of love made flesh for us.**

*Tune: Lobe den Herren; Words: Kathy Galloway*

**Gospel**      Matthew 10.7-13

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

As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for labourers deserve their food. Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. As you enter the house, greet it. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you.

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

**Sermon**      The Rev'd Canon Marion Chatterley, Vice Provost

**Anthem**      Canticle of Brother Sun

*Tune: Assisi, Arr. Duncan Ferguson;  
Words: Attributed to St Francis*

**Affirmation of faith**

You are holy, Lord, the only God  
and your deeds are wonderful.

**You are strong. You are great.  
You are the Most High. You are almighty.**

You holy Father are king of heaven and earth.  
You are three in One, Lord God, all good.

**You are good, all good, supremely good  
Lord God, living and true.**

You are love. You are wisdom.  
You are humility. You are endurance.

**You are rest. You are peace.  
You are joy and gladness.**

You are justice and moderation.  
You are all our riches and you suffice for us.

**You are beauty. You are gentleness.  
You are our protector. You are our guardian and defender.**

You are courage. You are our haven and our hope.  
You are our faith. You are our great consolation.

**You are our eternal life, great and wonderful Lord,  
God almighty, merciful Saviour. Amen.**

*Attributed to St Francis*

## **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.*

## **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**

## **Closing Prayer**

May God be your gold, your silver, your copper.  
May God be your clothing, your shoes and your staff.  
May God be your comfort, your peace and your blessing.  
May God be the home where you feast, rest and laugh.

## **Hymn**

### **Let all the world**

**Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,  
'My God and King!'  
The heav'ns are not too high,  
God's praise may thither fly;  
the earth is not too low,  
God's praises there may grow.  
Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,  
'My God and King!'**

**Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,  
'My God and King!'  
The church with psalms must shout:  
no door can keep them out.  
But, more than all, the heart  
must bear the longest part.  
Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,  
'My God and King!'**

*Tune: Luckington; Words: George Herbert*

## **Blessing & Dismissal**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you  
and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you  
and give you his peace.

**Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

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

## **Voluntary**