

## Morning Praise – 14<sup>th</sup> June 2026

### Creation & Nature

**Welcome & Notices:** *(Lindsey)*

**Opening sentence of scripture** *(Tammy)*

The earth is the Lord's and everything in it,  
the world and all who live in it.

*(Psalm 24:1)*

**Opening Praise** *(Tammy)*

In the beginning, God made the world

**Made in love for all mankind**

The earth was filled with lovely things

**Made in love for all mankind**

Out of the dust God made new creatures

**Made in love for all mankind**

These, God said, were in God's image

**Made in love for all mankind**

And to the world there came God's son

**King of love for all mankind**

**Opening Prayer:** *(Tammy)*

**Creating Spirit,**

**we gather here enveloped in the beauty of your world.**

**Open our eyes to see your presence**

**in every leaf, rock and living creature.**

**Open our ears to hear your voice**

**in the rushing of the wind and the birds of the air.**

**Open our hearts to feel your constant nurturing love.**

**In your holy name we pray.**

**Amen.**

**Opening Song: Morning has broken**

**Morning has broken like the first morning,**

**blackbird has spoken like the first bird.**

**Praise for the singing, praise for the morning,**

**praise for them springing fresh from the word.**

**Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dewfall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness where his feet pass.**

**Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning,  
born of the one light Eden saw play.  
Praise with elation, praise every morning,  
God's recreation of the new day.**

**Morning has broken like the first morning,  
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning,  
praise for them springing fresh from the word.**

Eleanor Farjeon (1881 – 1965)

### **Lament & Confession:** *(Tammy)*

For the times we have viewed the earth as a resource to exploit rather than a sacred gift to cherish, for our selfishness we confess:

**Lord forgive us and renew us.**

For the pollution of the air, the fouling of the waters and the destruction of forests and soil, for our blindness to the damage we cause, we confess:

**Lord forgive us and renew us.**

For the extinction of species and the abuse of the creatures with whom we share our planet, for our disregard of Your intricate design, we confess:

**Lord forgive us and renew us.**

For our inaction in the face of the climate crisis, and for valuing our own comfort over the survival of future generations, we confess:

**Lord forgive us and renew us.**

### **Absolution** *(Tammy)*

Hear the word of the gospel: 'God so loved the world that he sent his Son, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.'

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, restored, and called to be a new creation. Thanks be to God.

**Amen.**

**Lord forgive us and renew us.**

### **Song: He's got the whole world**

**He's got the whole world in his hands,  
He's got the whole world in his hands,  
He's got the whole world in his hands,  
He's got the whole world in his hands.**

**He's got the plants and the creatures in his hands  
He's got the plants and the creatures in his hands  
He's got the plants and the creatures in his hands  
He's got the whole world in his hands.**

*Congregation interaction – make up other verses! Ending with:*

**He's got everybody here in his hands  
He's got everybody here in his hands  
He's got everybody here in his hands  
He's got the whole world in his hands.**

*Traditional*

### **Children's Prayer**

Dear God, thank you for this beautiful world.

Thank you for the animals, the tall trees and clean water.

Forgive us when we are messy or careless with your earth.

Please help our small hands to do big things to take care of your garden.

Help us to pick up litter, plant seeds and love all your creatures.

**Amen.**

### **Reflective video and awareness walk in the churchyard**

#### **Responsive Prayer**

Creator God, we thank you for the ground beneath our feet  
(*Stomp feet twice*). **Thank you for the earth!**

We thank you for the air we breathe and the wind in the trees.  
(*Take a deep breath and blow it out loudly*). **Thank you for the air!**

We thank you for every living creature, big and small.  
(*Cup hands together like holding a small bug*). **Thank you for life!**

Help us to love this world and care for it every day.  
(*Open hands wide, palms up, then bring them to the heart*).  
**Amen!**

**Reading: Genesis 1:26, 2:4b-10,15** (Peter)

Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.'

When the Lord God made the earth and the heavens – and no shrub of the field had yet appeared on the earth and no plant of the field had yet sprung up, for the Lord God had not sent rain on the earth and there was no man to work the ground, but streams came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground – the Lord God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

Now the Lord God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man He had formed. And the Lord made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground – trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Short talk:** (Sylvia)

*Sylvia to introduce 'REEDS' offering*

**Offertory Song: Think of a world without any flowers**

**Think of a world without any flowers,  
Think of a world without any trees,  
Think of a sky without any sunshine,  
Think of the air without any breeze.  
We thank you, Lord, for flowers and trees and sunshine,  
We thank you, Lord, and praise your holy name.**

**Think of the world without any animals,  
Think of a field without any herd,  
Think of a stream without any fishes,  
Think of a dawn without any bird.  
We thank you, Lord, for all your living creatures,  
We thank you, Lord, and praise your holy name.**

**Think of a world without any people,  
Think of a street with no-one living there,  
Think of a town without any houses,  
No-one to love and nobody to care.  
We thank you, Lord, for families and friendships,  
We thank You, Lord, and praise your holy name.**

Doreen Newport (1927-2004) © 1969 Stainer & Bell Ltd

### **Offertory Prayer**

Heavenly Father; giver of all things, we bring our tithes and offerings to you. Just as you provide for the birds of the air and the flowers of the fields, you have richly blessed us. We return a portion of these blessings to you today. Bless these gifts and use them to sow seeds of hope, love and restoration in our community and beyond. In your holy name we pray.

**Amen**

**Creating 'leaf' messages for the 'Diocesan Tree of Hopes':** *(Linda)*

**Intercessions:** *(Julie)*

Responses:

Gracious God, we turn to you;

**For you are the source of our hope and the creator of the Kingdom.**

Merciful Father:

**Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### **Collect**

**Creator God, you show us what love is through the beauty of the earth and the gift of your Son.**

**For the love of animals and plants, mountain and forest, sea and city, woman and man, friend and family,**

those who live far from us, and those yet to be born,  
move us to live more simply,  
to protect the earth and to speak up for those in need.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:*

**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 forever. Amen**

### **The Peace**      *(Tammy)*

God makes peace within us. Let us claim it.  
God makes peace between us and all of creation. Let us share it.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**and also with you.**  
Let us offer one another a sign of the peace.

### **Sharing Time**

#### **Final Hymn: God the Maker of the heavens**

**God the Maker of the heavens  
and the planet that we share,  
show us how to live, like Jesus,  
lives of gratitude and care.  
Make us mindful of the footprints  
from the lives that we pursue.  
Make us partners in your mission:  
You are making all things new.**

**God, the gardener of Eden,  
teach us how to tend this earth,  
learning from the changing seasons,  
times of fallow and new birth.  
Lord, have mercy, when we're careless,  
rich resources we misuse.  
Use our hands to heal creation:  
You are making all things new.**

**God of labour and vocation,  
Lord of science, trade and art,  
take our efforts and our passions,  
make them mirrors of your heart.  
Every habitat and creature  
loved and valued, God, by you.  
May our lives reveal your kingdom:  
You are making all things new.  
You are making all things new.**

Sam Hargreaves © 2019 Resound Worship

*(Sylvia will give instructions for nature count and bug hunt)*

**Blessing** *(Lindsey)*

May God who clothes the lilies and feeds the birds of the sky,  
who leads the lambs to pasture and the deer to water,  
who multiplied loaves and fishes and changed water into wine,  
lead us, feed us, multiply us,  
and change us to reflect the glory of our Creator  
now and through all eternity;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

**Sending Prayer** *(Lindsey)*

As we leave this place, may we tread lightly through God's creation:  
eyes open to see its beauty; nose alert to fragrant fruit and flowers ;  
ears listening for birdsong,  
the rustle of leaves and the patter of raindrops;  
hands open to care for the earth;  
hands refraining from grasping.

God sends us out to tread lightly through his creation.  
Let us go in peace, in Jesus' name.

**Amen.**

**Playout song: 'What a wonderful world' Louis Armstrong**

I see trees of green, red roses too  
I see them bloom for me and you  
And I think to myself what a wonderful world.

I see skies of blue and clouds of white  
The bright blessed day, the dark sacred night  
And I think to myself what a wonderful world.

The colours of the rainbow so pretty in the sky  
Are also on the faces of people going by  
I see friends shaking hands saying how do you do  
They're really saying I love you.

I hear babies crying, I watch them grow  
They'll learn much more than I'll never know  
And I think to myself what a wonderful world  
Yes I think to myself what a wonderful world.

**Picnic Lunch!**

**Followed by nature count in the churchyard!**