

## Festival of Creation in Christ (Year A) (September 6<sup>th</sup> 2026)

*This new Festival, assigned to the first Sunday in September each year, is one of the fruits of a growing ecumenical movement across churches worldwide and offers an opportunity for Christians to give thanks for God's creation and redemption of the world, to reflect on humanity's responsibility to care for the natural world and to pray for its renewal.*

*The title 'Creation in Christ' emphasises that creation is understood through the person and work of Jesus Christ: created through him, sustained in him and destined for renewal in him.*

### Collect

O God and Father of all that was, is and ever shall be,  
help us to be thankful for all that is made  
at the hands of your Son  
and through the wisdom of your Spirit,  
that we may care in heart and in deed for the life of our  
world, to the praise and glory of your holy name. **Amen.**

### Psalm 96

1 Sing to the Lord a new song;  
sing to the Lord, all the earth.  
2 Sing to the Lord and bless his name;  
tell out his salvation from day to day.  
3 Declare his glory among the nations  
and his wonders among all peoples.  
4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;  
he is more to be feared than all gods.  
5 For all the gods of the nations are but idols;  
it is the Lord who made the heavens.  
6 Honour and majesty are before him;  
power and splendour are in his sanctuary.  
7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples;  
ascribe to the Lord honour and strength.  
8 Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name;  
bring offerings and come into his courts.  
9 O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;  
let the whole earth tremble before him.  
10 Tell it out among the nations that the Lord is king.  
He has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;  
he will judge the peoples with equity.  
11 Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad;  
let the sea thunder and all that is in it;  
12 Let the fields be joyful and all that is in them;  
let all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the  
Lord.  
13 For he comes, he comes to judge the earth;  
with righteousness he will judge the world  
and the peoples with his truth.

### Isaiah 55:12–end

For you shall go out in joy,  
and be led back in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you  
shall burst into song,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.  
<sup>13</sup> Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;  
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;  
and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial,  
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

### Colossians 1:15–20

<sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of  
all creation; <sup>16</sup> for in him all things in heaven and on  
earth were created, things visible and invisible,  
whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—  
all things have been created through him and for  
him. <sup>17</sup> He himself is before all things, and in him all  
things hold together. <sup>18</sup> He is the head of the body,  
the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from  
the dead, so that he might come to have first place in  
everything. <sup>19</sup> For in him all the fullness of God was  
pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup> and through him God was pleased  
to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or  
in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his  
cross.

### John 1:1–14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was  
with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the  
beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things came into being  
through him, and without him not one thing came  
into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup> in him was  
life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup> The light  
shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not  
overcome it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was  
John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify to the light, so  
that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He himself was  
not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup> The  
true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming  
into the world.

<sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world came into being  
through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He  
came to what was his own, and his own people did  
not accept him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who received him, who  
believed in his name, he gave power to become  
children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood or of  
the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and lived among us,  
and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's  
only son, full of grace and truth.

### Post Communion Prayer

God our Creator,  
by your gift the tree of life was set  
at the heart of the earthly paradise,  
and the bread of life at the heart of your Church:  
may we who have been nourished at your table on  
earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's  
cross and enjoy the delights of eternity;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**