



**St Edmund's Church Taverham
and St Peter's Church Ringland**

28th September 2025

This is my Father's world

And to my listening ears
All nature sings and round me rings
The music of the spheres
This is my Father's world
I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees of skies and seas
His hand the wonders wrought

This is my Father's world
The birds their carols raise
The morning light the lily white
Declare their Maker's praise
This is my Father's world
He shines in all that's fair
In the rust'ling grass I hear Him pass
He speaks to me ev'rywhere

This is my Father's world
O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong
God is the Ruler yet
This is my Father's world
Why should my heart be sad
The Lord is King let the heavens ring
God reigns let the earth be glad

This is my Father's world
Though soiled by all our sin
Creation groans for God alone
Can liberate us from within
This is my Father's world
And so He sent His son
By grace through faith our lives to save
And sanctify until He's done
(Sheppard, Ribble, Babcock)

Call to Worship

The word has come for us from God:

who promises to shelter us under the wings of hope and grace.

The word has come to us from Jesus:

who encourages us to remember the good news we have received.

The word flows to us from the Spirit:
who reminds us to place our hope and trust in God.
God in Community, Holy in One,
our Refuge, our Trust, our Hope,
we lift our prayer to you
as Jesus has taught us, saying,

**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 for ever. Amen.**

Creator God, we celebrate your gift of Earth, your gift of all Creation.
**We give thanks that you embodied your love in Jesus, made your compassion real with
the dust of the earth, and so blessed our lives, our breath and our bodies.**
Loving Creator, we renew our reverence for your gift.
**We look to Earth not as a “resource,” for our use, but a temple of your presence,
a living being that we are part of and in relationship with.**
God, we, praise you; we confess our self-centredness.
We open our hearts to your Spirit, that we may love as you have loved us.

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 world

Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven
Like the first dew fall, 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 world
(Words:Eleanor Farjeon)

A reading from the gospel according to Luke beginning at chapter 16 verse 19.

'There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores.

The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side.

He called out, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames."

But Abraham said, "Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us."

He said, "Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house- for I have five brothers-that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment."

Abraham replied, "They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them." He said, "No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent."

He said to him, "If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead." ' '

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Beauty for brokenness, hope for despair

Lord in Your suffering, this is our prayer
Bread for the children, justice, joy, peace
Sunrise to sunset, Your kingdom increase

Shelter for fragile lives, cures for their ills
Work for the craftsmen, trade for their skills
Land for the dispossessed, rights for the weak
Voices to plead the cause of those who can't speak

*God of the poor, friend of the weak
Give us compassion we pray
Melt our cold hearts, let tears fall like rain
Come change our love from a spark to a flame*

Refuge from cruel wars, havens from fear
Cities for sanctuary, freedoms to share
Peace to the killing fields, scorched earth to green
Christ for the bitterness, His cross for the pain

Rest for the ravaged earth, oceans and streams
Plundered and poisoned, our future, our dreams
Lord end our madness, carelessness, greed

Make us content with the things that we need
Lighten our darkness, breathe on this flame
Until Your justice burns brightly again
Until the nations learn of Your ways
Seek Your salvation and bring You their praise
(Graham Kendrick)

**Creator God, we confess we have not honoured your Creation;
we have not loved it as you have loved us.
We have thought ourselves separate, not part of your Creation.
Forgive our ignorance and arrogance,
our greed and destructiveness.
Bring us again into the oneness of your Creation;
forgive us, heal our fears and transform our desires,
and shepherd us to be good stewards
of the gift of life. Amen.**

May the God of Love bring us back to
himself, Forgive us our sins, and assure us of
his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Touch the earth lightly, use the earth gently

Nourish the life of the world in our care
Gift of great wonder, ours to surrender
Trust for the children tomorrow will bear

We who endanger, who create hunger
Agents of death for all creatures that live
We who would foster clouds of disaster
God of our planet, forestall and forgive

Let there be greening, birth from the burning
Water that blesses and air that is sweet
Health in God's garden, hope in God's children
Regeneration that peace will complete

God of all living, God of all loving
God of the seedling, the snow and the sun
Teach us, deflect us, Christ reconnect us
Using us gently, and making us one
(Shirley Erena Murray & Colin Gibson)

**We believe in God, Creator of all, who is creating even now, bringing all things into
existence, whose Word is made flesh in all Creation, whose presence is embodied in all
living beings.**

**We follow Christ, who perfectly embodied God's love. He taught and healed; he fed
the hungry and embraced the outcast. He was at one with all Creation: even the seas
upheld him, and the wind and the waves listened to his voice. He was crucified, but even
in death life blessed him: God raised him from the dead, the Ruler of Life.**

We live by the Holy Spirit, the breath of life in us and all creatures: the power to love, to forgive, to create, to give life. We trust in this grace that makes us one with all Creation. And by the power of that Spirit we devote ourselves in covenant faithfulness to humble reverence and grateful service to all Creation, in the name of Christ. Amen.

O Lord my God, When I in awesome wonder

Consider all the works Thy hand hath made
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder
Thy power throughout the universe displayed

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!*

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin

When Christ shall come, with shouts of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, My God, how great Thou art!
(tune:Swedish Folk / words:Stuart Hine)

God sends us from this place with a word of hope.

We will offer the shelter of grace to all in need.

Jesus sends us out with the word of life.

We will seek to share community with those we will meet.

The Spirit sends us into a world which longs for justice.

We will trust that God's freedom will be offered to all people.

Father teach us, lead and guide us

The strength of your word will see us through
Come Holy Spirit, inspire from within
And forevermore we'll follow You

*So bless everyone Lord, O bless us all
The strong and the weak, with their backs to the wall
Bless us O Lord, O bless us all
The high and the mighty and those who might fall
Bless you all*

May you always feel His peace in your heart
May you know He's watching over you
May you always have His wind in your sails
And follow His chosen course true

Take our hands and guide us now
Show us the best of our ways
Shine your light on the dark in our lives
We'll be Yours till the end of our days

If it seems like the worst and darkest of times
Feeling empty and aching inside
If you think every day, nothing fits, nothing rhymes
Just remember, He's right there beside

So bless everyone Lord, O bless us all
In houses or hovels or no homes at all
Bless us O Lord, O bless us all
The rich and the poor, those with nothing at all
Bless you all
(Nick Moore)

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