

St.Mary's Church, Eastham



Celtic Morning Prayer

Wednesday 20th May 2020

The seed sheds its husk
and the day emerges,
blinking in the spring light.

**As we cast off the shadows
may our spirit rise with the rising sun,
alive and awake in the glowing air.**

We give thanks for the gift of this,
all of this,
all of you:
so present, so near.
In the chaos and buzz of life we find you:
a stillness, gentle and immense.

**As we give thanks for the day
may our prayers rise like birds from mist
finding their path to the clear heights.**

In desert places
you come to us
sowing a seed of promise.

Give us grace
to know ourselves more deeply,
to strip away false images,
seeing the world anew.

Help us to listen now
to the unheard stories
and victim voices,
the words of God for our time.

Steven Shakespeare

A Psalm: Psalm 148 (NRSV)

- ¹ Praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!
- ² Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his host!
- ³ Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you shining stars!
- ⁴ Praise him, you highest heavens,
and you waters above the heavens!
- ⁵ Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for he commanded and they were created.
- ⁶ He established them forever and ever;
he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.^[a]
- ⁷ Praise the LORD from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps,
- ⁸ fire and hail, snow and frost,
stormy wind fulfilling his command!
- ⁹ Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars!
- ¹⁰ Wild animals and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds!
- ¹¹ Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!
- ¹² Young men and women alike,
old and young together!
- ¹³ Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for his name alone is exalted;
his glory is above earth and heaven.
- ¹⁴ He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for all his faithful,
for the people of Israel who are close to him.
Praise the LORD!

Praise be to God our Creator.

A Bible reading: Job 12:7-10 (NRSV)

⁷“But ask the animals, and they will teach you;
the birds of the air, and they will tell you;
⁸ask the plants of the earth, and they will teach you;
and the fish of the sea will declare to you.
⁹Who among all these does not know
that the hand of the LORD has done this?
¹⁰In his hand is the life of every living thing
and the breath of every human being.

A Bible reading: John 1:1-5 (NRSV)

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

A SHORT REFLECTION

A Time of Prayer

Short intercessory prayer followed by a time of silence during which we lift to God our own prayers.

The Lord's Prayer

**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.
And forgive our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory,
are yours,
now and forever.
Amen.**

For the beauty of the earth,
Father of all, we praise you.
For the mystery of creation,
Father of all, we praise you.
For the wonders of the universe,
Father of all, we praise you.
For the power within all things,
Father of all, we praise you.
For all who work the land,
Creator, hear us.
For all who care for our planet,
Creator, hear us.
For all involved in conservation,
Creator, hear us.
For all who improve our environment,
Creator, hear us.

Blessing:

This is a time of gifts:
the gift of creation, abundance of life;
the gift of our deepest ground, bearing the divine
within us;
the gift of connection, the Spirit of Community.
**May these gifts be a blessing to us and to all
and may the whole of creation
show us the way to wisdom and truth.
Amen.**

Steven Shakespeare

May green be the grass you walk on,
May blue be the skies above you,
May pure be the joys that surround you,
May true be the hearts that love you.

AMEN.

