

COP26 Daily Prayer Vigil

Gathering

We come with faith:
and we seek hope.

We come with doubts:
and we seek understanding.

We come with griefs:
and we seek consolation.

Of our own hearts and mis-desirings:
we seek transformation.

Of your ways and will:
we seek wisdom.

For living in this present darkness:
we seek courage.

Turning to God

As the day turns,
as the earth breathes,
as the lowering sun stretches shadows into night:
we come under your wing.
**You: in every face, in every whisper of life,
in every touch of compassion, you are with us.**

We bring to you our memories of hurt and healing,
the doubt and dreaming, the harvest of the day, the flesh of our spirit.
**You: in every face, in every whisper of life,
in every touch of compassion, you are with us.**

Towards evening, after hard words and dashed hopes,
you showed yourself to the weary and wondering.
**Radiant Christ, Son of the Earth,
show yourself to us now.**

Speak to our need,
connect our struggles,
give us persistence in our dreams of justice and peace.
Transform the matter of our lives into the kindling of hope.
**For you are the love, human and divine,
that never dies and never runs dry.**

Listening for God's Word

The readings for each day are below from p.5

Prayer

The world is charged with your grandeur, O God:
It flames out, like shining from shook foil.

We lift our hearts:
For your Spirit is with us.

You remember we are but dust:
Tenderly you hold us

You know us with compassion and mercy,
Hallowed be your name.

We recall the glimpses of God's goodness, grace and love

We grieve for fraying the web of life we love.
We rail at the losses we contemplate.

We place before God the losses and concerns of our hearts

Transform our prospects
Turn our grief to solidarity

Bringing to God the campaigns we hold dear.

Still the Breath of Life over the bent world broods
with warm breast and bright wings

Holding before God the people who protest

The work before us is daunting and hard.

Provision us for the labour

As we set our hands to remedy human ill.

*Considering before God what we need collectively & individually
in seeking truth, justice and charity*

Equip us and strengthen us

To lean into the flourishing of life on earth.

We long for words of comfort,

yet find them hard to hear.

Knowing we are emmeshed in the harming of your creation,

Redeem our failures

Bind up the wounds of past mistakes.

Recycle your forgiveness of us

Into our forgiveness of others.

Rework our anger as energy for repair of the world

Refashion our guilt as active love.

And for all this, nature is never spent;

There lives the dearest freshness deep down things;

Wherever we will tread is crammed with heaven

And every common bush afire with God.



Departing in peace

Go with us, God, into our lives
and our world, guiding our feet,
thoughts, hopes and our actions.
May your continual help equip
us to serve your divine purpose
for our world and our lives,
both now and for ever,
through Jesus Christ our rescuer.
Amen.

**Keep us, holy Spirit of air,
under the shadow of your wings.
Keep us, holy Spirit of earth,
in the darkening of your trees.
Keep us, holy Spirit of water,
in the stillness of your depths.
Keep us, holy Spirit of fire,
in the embers of your heart.**

Monday week 2

Listening for God's Word

Reader: Let us listen for the Word of life

God is the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it. *Isaiah 42:5*

- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times; ♦
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
- 2 **My soul shall glory in the Lord; ♦**
let the humble hear and be glad.
- 3 O magnify the Lord with me; ♦
let us exalt his name together.
- 4 **I sought the Lord and he answered me ♦**
and delivered me from all my fears.
- 5 Look upon him and be radiant ♦
and your faces shall not be ashamed.
- 6 **This poor soul cried, and the Lord heard me ♦**
and saved me from all my troubles.
- 7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him ♦
and delivers them.
- 8 **O taste and see that the Lord is gracious; ♦**
blessed is the one who trusts in him.

Psalm 148

Revelation 5.1-10

God has sent forth the word
May it not return empty.

Reflect

In Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'* ("Praised be") he notes that "St Francis, faithful to scripture, invites us to see nature as a magnificent book in which God speaks to us and grants us a glimpse of his infinite beauty and goodness."

Later he offers a profound challenge: "As so often occurs in periods of deep crisis which require bold decisions, we are tempted to think that what is happening is not entirely clear. Such evasiveness serves as a license to carrying on with our present lifestyles and models of production and consumption. This is the way human beings contrive to feed their self-destructive vices: trying not to see them, trying not to acknowledge them, delaying the important decisions and pretending that nothing will happen."

A prayer from Pope Francis 'Laudato Si'

Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth.

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace.

Tuesday week 2

Listening for God's Word

Reader: Let us listen for the Word of life

We will listen to what the Lord God will say
for God shall speak peace to his people
to the faithful shall God speak
that we do not turn again to folly

from Psalm 85:8

Pause to recognise God's presence.

My soul faints with longing for your salvation,
and in your word have I put my hope.

- 1 Sin whispers to the wicked, in the depths of their heart; ♦
there is no fear of God before their eyes.
- 2 **They flatter themselves in their own eyes ♦**
that their abominable sin will not be found out.
- 3 The words of their mouth are unrighteous and full of deceit; ♦
they have ceased to act wisely and to do good.
- 4 **They think out mischief upon their beds ♦**
and have set themselves in no good way; ♦
nor do they abhor that which is evil.
- 5 Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens ♦
and your faithfulness to the clouds.
- 6 **Your righteousness stands like the strong mountains,**
your justice like the great deep; ♦
you, Lord, shall save both man and beast.
- 7 How precious is your loving mercy, O God! ♦
All mortal flesh shall take refuge
under the shadow of your wings.
- 8 **They shall be satisfied with the abundance of your house; ♦**
they shall drink from the river of your delights.
- 9 For with you is the well of life ♦
and in your light shall we see light.
- 10 **O continue your loving-kindness to those who know you ♦**
and your righteousness to those who are true of heart.

Psalm 36.1-10

Revelation 6.12-17

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May it not return empty.

Reflect

Turning the tables

This glorious creation faces several imminent climate tipping points – humankind’s future hangs in the balance. Despite this crisis scenario, well documented by climate scientists over many decades; for most world leaders and policy makers, the market forces of globalization and economic development take priority over all else. These are unprecedented times – and we are all called to respond.

When Jesus entered the temple in Jerusalem he looked around carefully at everything (Mark 11:11). He mulled over his response. We have no insights into his thinking and his righteous anger at the use of his Father’s house. However, it was apparent that the experience of coming to

worship God was being marred by wrongful practices that harmed the poor. His dramatic intervention the following day, in overturning the tables of the traders and money changers and driving them from the temple, harmed no-one directly, but made a huge disturbance and made everyone aware of their complicity in what had built up over the years.

We too have reached a time when ‘business as usual’ is just not compatible with a safe future for ourselves, and more importantly future generations. Time for us too to ‘turn over tables’ of what we accept as ‘normal’ and demand that our leaders prioritise climate action and response. Let’s do all we can as individuals. And let’s start with prayer for the decisions to be made in Glasgow – that tables will be overturned and new, profoundly effective ways of mitigating climate impacts will be reached, with poorer countries supported and facilitated to bring about climate justice.

Wednesday week 2

Listening for God's Word

Reader: Let us listen for the Word of life

Through the Word, all was made that has been made.
And the Word became flesh and lived among us

**We take refuge in God's earthing in flesh;
immersion in death; rising to Life.
We take refuge in the Love of God;
the Good News of Christ;
the prayers of the faithful.**

As we hear the scriptures read, may they lead us to the Christ and may we find in Jesus the fulfilment of all our searching.

- 1 Fret not because of evildoers; ♦
be not jealous of those who do wrong.
- 2 **For they shall soon wither like grass ♦
and like the green herb fade away.**
- 3 Trust in the Lord and be doing good; ♦
dwell in the land and be nourished with truth.
- 4 **Let your delight be in the Lord ♦
and he will give you your heart's desire.**
- 5 Commit your way to the Lord and put your trust in him, ♦
and he will bring it to pass.
- 6 **He will make your righteousness as clear as the light ♦
and your just dealing as the noonday.**
- 7 Be still before the Lord and wait for him; ♦
do not fret over those that prosper
as they follow their evil schemes.
- 8 **Refrain from anger and abandon wrath; ♦
do not fret, lest you be moved to do evil.**

Psalm 37.1-8

Revelation 7.1-12

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Reflect

Resurrection

Father of Creation, God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
We know that when your Son entered Jerusalem, he wept.

He wept because he knew what would befall it.

Father of Creation, God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
When we look at this world of yours, this world of ours, we weep.

We weep because we know what has befallen it. Violence; Lord have Mercy.
Consumerism; Lord have Mercy.
Unrestrained Capitalism; Lord have Mercy.

Your Son dreamed a dream of a different kingdom,
An alternative reality for an alternative community.
And then he demonstrated what this looked like,
By healing the sick, welcoming the outcast, overturning tables of injustice,

And living a life, and dying a death, of self-giving sacrificial love.

Father of Creation,
God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
May we too dream a dream of a different kingdom,

May we too be resurrection people,
Who demonstrate that violence, evil and destruction
will not have the last word.
Demonstrating that unrestrained capitalism and empires of exploitation
will not have the last word.

To him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb,
Be all praise, honour and glory. Amen

Revd Jon Swales

Thursday week 2

Listening for God's Word

Reader: Let us listen for the Word of life

Let us pray that the flame of God's loving presence may spring up in our hearts and transform us by the knowledge of divine glory.

**We take refuge in God's earthing in flesh;
immersion in death; rising to Life.**

**We take refuge in the Love of God;
the Good News of Christ;
the prayers of the faithful.**

As we hear the scriptures read, may they lead us to the Christ.
And may we find in Jesus the fulfilment of all our searching.

- 1 As the deer longs for the water brooks, ◆
so longs my soul for you, O God.
- 2 **My soul is athirst for God, even for the living God; ◆
when shall I come before the presence of God?**
- 3 My tears have been my bread day and night, ◆
while all day long they say to me, 'Where is now your God?'
- 4 **Now when I think on these things, I pour out my soul: ◆
how I went with the multitude
and led the procession to the house of God,**
- 5 With the voice of praise and thanksgiving, ◆
among those who kept holy day.
- 6 **Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul, ◆
and why are you so disquieted within me?**
- 7 O put your trust in God; ◆
for I will yet give him thanks,
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.
- 8 **My soul is heavy within me; ◆
therefore I will remember you from the land of Jordan,
and from Hermon and the hill of Mizar.**
- 9 Deep calls to deep in the thunder of your waterfalls; ◆
all your breakers and waves have gone over me.

**10 The Lord will grant his loving-kindness in the daytime; ♦
through the night his song will be with me,
a prayer to the God of my life.**

Psalm 42.1-10

Revelation 8.6-13

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Reflect

Traditional Jewish prayer

How wonderful, O Lord, are the works of your hands! The heavens declare your glory; the arch of sky displays your handiwork. In your love you have given us the power to behold the beauty of your world robed in all its splendour.

The sun and the stars, the valleys and hills, the rivers and lakes all disclose your presence. The roaring breakers of the seas tell of your awesome might; the beasts of the field and the birds of the air speak of your wondrous will.

In your goodness you have made us able to hear the music of the world. You are in our midst. A divine voice sings through all creation.

Friday week 2

Listening for God's Word

Reader: Let us listen for the Word of life

As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul longs after you, O God.
My soul thirsts for you, the living God.

What is it that we seek?

We seek God's reign and righteousness.

Let's seek with all our reflecting

Amen. God be our wisdom.

Let's seek with all our attentiveness

Amen. God be our centre

Let's seek with all our valuing

Amen. God be our vision.

Let's seek with all our efforts

Amen. God be our souls' shelter

On the cross, Jesus framed fracturing-life's ebb with words from scripture,
May we frame our lives' flow primed by God's word. Let us attend!

- 1 In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame; ♦
deliver me in your righteousness.
- 2 **Incline your ear to me; ♦**
make haste to deliver me.
- 3 Be my strong rock, a fortress to save me,
for you are my rock and my stronghold; ♦
guide me, and lead me for your name's sake.
- 4 **Take me out of the net**
that they have laid secretly for me, ♦
for you are my strength.
- 5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, ♦
for you have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.

Psalms 31.1-5

Revelation 3.14-end

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Reflect

A fast changing tapestry

Creator God, what a complex tapestry your creative fingers have woven;
We delight at the daily reminders of your creative power.
This tapestry is closely interwoven, fragile, changing; changing too fast.
Scientists confirm what our hearts already know – and we are fearful. We
are fearful of seasons that have lost their pattern; of all the uncertainties
that climate change is bringing.

Politicians bend and bow to meet national priorities, while greenhouse gases
build, oceans acidify and air streams shift.

Forgive us for our lack of response. For seeing the scale of this crisis as
reason not to engage.

Grant that through our prayers your Holy Spirit may give wisdom,
inspiration and resolve to our politicians, leaders and negotiators, enabling
them to make the tough decisions necessary for all people to live, to hope
and to shape a greener world. In Jesus' name we pray,

Amen.

Isabel Carter

© [Book of our Common Prayer](#)
Steven Shakespeare – *The Earth Cries Glory*, Canterbury Press
[Pray and fast for the climate](#)