

ST THOMAS THE APOSTLE
BOSTON ROAD, HANWELL, W7 2AD



Creation Care Sunday

Outdoor Parish Family Mass

Welcome to St Thomas the Apostle Church, Hanwell for our Parish Mass.



We hope you enjoy your time with us.

Do join us for refreshments in the Church Hall afterwards..

The Mass Setting for this Service is the Mass of St. Thomas by David Thorne

Please do take this service booklet away with you for your own prayers & reflections this coming week.

Today we recognise that the earth is God's gift, and that we ourselves, being made in the image of God, are called to care for this fragile planet earth, to share its resources justly and to protect the variety of life it sustains.

Please **Stand** (if you are able) as the Choir and Altar party enter.

The Gathering & Greeting

✠ We gather in praise of the God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **All: Amen**

The Lord be with you. **All: And also with you.**

First Hymn: 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.	2. 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.	3. Mine is the sunlight, Mine is the morning Born of the one light Eden saw play. Praise with elation, Praise every morning, God's re-creation Of the new day.
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Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965)

Invitation to Confession

Let us confess our greed and repent of the ways in which we have damaged God's good creation:

We confess to you our lack of care for the world you have given us.

All: Lord, have mercy.

We confess to you our failure to protect the environment.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Holy Spirit, you are sent to be with us for ever; fill us afresh.

All: Lord, have mercy.

May the Father of all mercies ✠ cleanse you from your sins, and restore you in his image to the praise and glory of his name, through Jesus Christ our Lord

All: Amen

Gloria in Excelsis

Please **Stand** as we **Sing** together **The Gloria**.

All: Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the Highest,

Glory to God in the Highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the Highest.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the Highest.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father.

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the Highest.

The Collect

In a time of silence, let us pray that our worship will bring us closer to the one who has created all things.

Glorious God, the whole creation proclaims your marvellous work: increase in us a capacity to wonder and delight in it, that heaven's praise may echo in our hearts and our lives be spent as good stewards of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

The First Reading: Genesis 2: 7-15. *(Reading is read by Ella Howson)*

Then the LORD God took some soil from the ground and formed a man out of it; he breathed life-giving breath into his nostrils and the man began to live. Then the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the East, and there he put the man he had formed. He made all kinds of beautiful trees grow there and produce good fruit. In the middle of the garden stood the tree that gives life and the tree that gives knowledge of what is good and what is bad. A stream flowed in Eden and watered the garden; beyond

Eden it divided into four rivers. The first river is the Pishon; it flows around the country of Havilah. (Pure gold is found there and also rare perfume and precious stones.) The second river is the Gihon; it flows around the country of Cush. The third river is the Tigris, which flows east of Assyria, and the fourth river is the Euphrates. Then the LORD God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to cultivate it and guard it. This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

All: Alleluia, alleluia.

Cantor: 'You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power : for you created all things.

All: Alleluia.

The Lord be with you. **All: And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **S. Mark 16. 9-15.**

All ✠✠✠ Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had driven seven demons. She went and told those who had been with him and who were mourning and weeping. When they heard that Jesus was alive and that she had seen him, they did not believe it. Afterward Jesus appeared in a different form to two of them while they were walking in the country. These returned and reported it to the rest; but they did not believe them either. Later Jesus appeared to the Eleven as they were eating; he rebuked them for their lack of faith and their stubborn refusal to believe those who had seen him after he had risen. He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Sermon or Homily *is given*

The Motet is sung by the Choir & Junior Choir

The Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles Creed

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Please Kneel or Sit for the Prayers of Intercession. *(Led by our Junior Church Members)*

Jesus, you loved the land and fields of flowers; bless farmers, gardeners and all who till and care for the soil.

Lord hear us. All: Lord graciously hear us.

O God we are one in you, and all that we do affects the whole; make us aware of our power to seed the world with good or ill by every thought, word and deed.

Lord hear us. All: Lord graciously hear us.

In taking flesh among us you raised all creation to a new dignity; teach us to have an ever growing reverence for your bountiful creation and a sense of responsibility for its preservation.

Lord hear us. All: Lord graciously hear us.

Creator God, there is a renewed interest in "grow it yourself", allotments and community gardens. May these movements continue to develop and expand.

Lord hear us. All: Lord graciously hear us.

Creator God, you adorn the earth with the beauty of each season; awaken us to your loving care for all that exists as you lift up our hearts with colour and surprise.

Lord hear us. All: Lord graciously hear us.

Christ Jesus, You assured us of God's love for us. May we always respect our bodies and spiritual welfare by the moderate use of the good gifts of our world.

Lord hear us. All: Lord graciously hear us.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

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.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace. *All may exchange a sign of peace.*

Offertory Hymn: All things bright and beautiful.

*All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful:
The Lord God made them all.*

**3. The purple headed mountains,
The river running by,
The sunset and the morning
That brightens up the sky.**

**5. The tall trees in the greenwood,
The meadows where we play,
The rushes by the water,
We gather every day.**

**2. Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colours,
And made their tiny wings.**

**4. The cold wind in the winter,
The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden:
God made them every one.**

**6. God gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well.**

Mrs C. F. Alexander (1818-95)

Preparation of the Table

Offertory Prayer

All: As the grain once scattered in the fields and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside are now united on this table in bread and wine, so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together from the corners of the earth into your kingdom. Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: His Spirit is with us.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

All: It is right to give thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, Lord God, our light and our salvation; to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the beginning you have created all things and all your works echo the silent music of your praise. In the fullness of time you made us in your image, the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels and all the powers of heaven we may find a voice to sing your praise:

**All: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord. God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.
✠ Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

Congregation Kneel or Sit.

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord. As a mother tenderly gathers her children, you embraced a people as your own. When they turned away and rebelled your love remained steadfast.

From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary, to be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied. He offered his life for sinners, and with a love stronger than death he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died, he came to supper with his friends and, taking bread, he gave you thanks. He broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. ✠

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. ✠

Jesus Christ is Lord:

**All: Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

Father, we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross; we remember his dying and rising in glory, and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you these gifts of your creation; may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son. As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence, form us in the likeness of Christ, and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Remember, Lord, your Church in every land. Reveal her unity, guard her faith, and preserve her in peace

Bring us at the last with Mary, the Virgin Mother of God, St Thomas the Apostle and our Patron and all the saints to the vision of that eternal splendour for which you have created us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, by whom, with whom, and in whom, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**All: Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The priest breaks the consecrated bread, and says:

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All: Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

*The **Agnus Dei** is sung*

**All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: Grant us peace.**

Invitation to Communion

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

The Priest, Altar Party, Choir and the People all receive communion.

If you are baptised and receive communion in your own church, you are welcome to receive communion here.

You are welcome to receive a blessing instead of communion.

If you wish to receive a blessing, please keep your head bowed.

Communion Hymn: Colours of Day.

**1. Colours of day dawn into the mind,
The sun has come up, the night is behind.
Go down in the city, into the street,
And let's give the message to the people we meet**

*So light up the fire and let the flame burn,
Open the door, let Jesus return,
Take seeds of His Spirit, let the fruit grow,
Tell the people of Jesus, let His love show.*

**2. Go through the park, on into the town;
The sun still shines on, it never goes down.
The light of the world is risen again;
The people of darkness are needing a friend.**

**3. Open your eyes, look into the sky,
The darkness has come, the sun came to die,
The evening draws on, the sun disappears,
But Jesus is living, His Spirit is near.**

Sue McClellan (b. 1951) John Paculabo (b. 1946)
Keith Ryecroft (b. 1949)

Prayers after Communion

All: Creator God, send your Holy Spirit to renew this living world, that the whole creation, in its groaning and striving, may know your loving purpose and come to reflect your glory; in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Final Hymn: You shall go out with joy.

**You shall go out with joy
And be led forth with peace,
And the mountains and the hills
shall break forth before you.
There'll be shouts of joy
And the trees of the fields
shall clap, shall clap their hands.**

**And the trees of the fields shall clap their hands,
And the trees of the fields shall clap their hands,
And the trees of the fields shall clap their hands,
And you'll go out with joy.**

Steffi Karen Rubin (b 1950)

The Affirmation & Blessing

As the whole of creation looks with eager longing for the redemption of humankind, let us pledge ourselves anew to serve our Creator God, the Father who is the maker of all things, the Son through whom all things are made, and the Holy Spirit, the giver of life, who renews the face of the earth.

Let us *Stand*: to affirm our commitment to care actively for God's creation.

All: Lord of life and giver of hope, we pledge ourselves to care for creation, to reduce our waste, to live sustainably, and to value the rich diversity of life. May your wisdom guide us, that life in all its forms may flourish, and may be faithful in voicing creation's praise.

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

May God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all goodness, pour his blessing upon all things created, and upon us his children, that we may use his gifts to his glory and the welfare of all peoples; and the blessing of ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you always.

All: Amen.

Go in peace, and may the commitment we have made this day be matched by our faithful living.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

