



**Richmond
Team Ministry**



Sung Eucharist

11:00am

The Feast of Creation in Christ
6 September 2026

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The Church of St John the Divine

Richmond Team Ministry

St John the Divine • St Matthias • St Mary Magdalene

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WELCOME to St John's this morning on The Feast of Creation in Christ!



This year, 'The Feast of Creation in Christ' is being added to the Common Worship calendar, which we keep today. The Feast of Creation in Christ serves to remind us that we are not called to worship the created order nor merely to offer lament for ecological crisis. Rather, the Festival is an opportunity to:

- come before God to give thanks for the divine act of creation,
- behold all things as made through Christ the Word, and
- treat the world as gift, covenant, and responsibility.

The Festival connects the liturgical celebration of creation with the Church's calling, expressed in the Fifth Mark of Mission, to 'safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth'.

We are grateful to The Rev'd Robert Stanier for leading our worship today, whilst Joe is on holiday.

***This act of worship is livestreamed on our Facebook page,
please do 'follow' us on Facebook:
St John the Divine, Richmond Team Ministry.***

***Follow us on Instagram: @stjohnsrichmondw9
Follow the Vicar on Instagram: @richmondrevlondon***

The clergy in the Richmond Team Ministry are always happy to meet for pastoral conversations about faith or to offer spiritual counsel. If you would like to speak with a member of the clergy, do be in touch directly or through the RTM Parish Office.

Prelude

Pastorale Sostenuto John McCabe

*Please stand to sing the **Entrance Hymn** when the bell rings.*

**1 For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:**

***Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.***

**2 For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light:**

**3 For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
pleasures pure and undefiled:**

**4 For each perfect gift of thine,
to our race so freely given,
graces human and divine,
flowers of earth and buds of heaven:**

**5 For thy church which evermore
lifteth holy hands above,
offering up on every shore
her pure sacrifice of love:**

FOLLIOTT SANDFORD PIERPOINT (1835–1917)
A&M 537

The Gathering

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Greeting

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

A welcome is given by the presiding priest.

The Penitential Act

The earth is the Lord's and all that fills it.
Let us confess our failure to receive with
gratitude God's gift of creation, and repent
of the ways in which we have caused it
harm.

**Father eternal, giver of light and
grace, we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour, in what
we have thought, in what we have
said and done, through ignorance,
through weakness, through our own
deliberate fault. We have wounded
your love, and marred your image in
us. We are sorry and ashamed, and
repent of all our sins.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus
Christ, who died for us, forgive us all
that is past, and lead us out from
darkness to walk as children of light.
Amen.**

The Absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly
repent have mercy upon you, pardon and
deliver you from all your sins, confirm and
strengthen you in all goodness and keep
you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ
our Lord. **Amen.**

The Gloria

Refrain: **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. Refrain**

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. Refrain

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. Refrain

The Collect

Let us pray.

Holy and eternal God, you are the Maker of heaven and earth, you are the Word through whom all things were made, and you are the Spirit, the giver of life: draw us into the mystery of your love, that with all creation we may proclaim your praise, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Please sit for the readings and the psalm.

First Reading

*A reading from the prophecy of 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. 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.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 96

*The Psalm appointed for the day is led by the St John's Singers, with the congregation joining in with the **Response**.*

Response: O sing to the Lord a new song; O sing to the Lord, all the earth.

- 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. **R**
- 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. **R**
- 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. **R**
- 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. **R**
- 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; **R**

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. **R**

Second Reading

A reading from Paul's letter to the Colossians (1. 15-20).

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; 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. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 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. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 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.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

We stand to sing the **Gradual Hymn**

**I Lord of beauty, thine the splendour
shown in earth and sky and sea,
burning sun and moonlight tender,
hill and river, flower and tree:
lest we fail our praise to render
touch our eyes that they may see.**

**2 Lord of wisdom, whom obeying
mighty waters ebb and flow,
while unhasting, undelaying,
planets on their courses go:
in thy laws thyself displaying,
teach our minds thyself to know.**

**3 Lord of life, alone sustaining
all below and all above,
Lord of love, by whose ordaining
sun and stars sublimely move:
in our earthly spirits reigning,
lift our hearts that we may love.**

**4 Lord of beauty, bid us own thee,
Lord of truth, our footsteps guide,
till as Love our hearts enthrone thee,
and, with vision purified,
Lord of all, when all have known
thee, thou in all art glorified.**

CYRIL ARGENTINE ALINGTON (1872–1955)
A&M 541 (TUNE: REGENT SQUARE)

Gospel acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

A seasonal sentence is sung.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Gospel Reading

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (1.1-14).

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.

What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

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

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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Please sit.

The Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came
down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary and was made
man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and
was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in
accordance with the Scriptures; he
ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the
Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge
the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and
the Son, who with the Father and
the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the
prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and
apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for
the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the
dead, and the life of the world to
come. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Kneel to pray.

Lord, in your mercy *or*: Lord, hear us.
**Hear our prayer *or* Lord,
graciously hear us.**

At the end:

**Merciful Father,
accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Please stand.

You shall go out in joy and be led back into 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 Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

*We greet each other with a sign of peace, and then sing the **Offertory Hymn.***

**1 Jesus, where'er thy people meet,
there they behold thy mercy-seat;
where'er they seek thee thou art
found, and every place is hallowed
ground.**

**2 For thou, within no walls confined,
inhabitest the humble mind;
such ever bring thee when they
come, and, going, take thee to their
home.**

**3 Dear Shepherd of thy chosen few,
thy former mercies here renew;
here to our waiting hearts proclaim
the sweetness of thy saving name.**

**4 Here may we prove the power of
prayer to strengthen faith and
sweeten care, to teach our faint
desires to rise, and bring all heaven
before our eyes.**

**5 Lord, we are few, but thou art
near; nor short thine arm, nor deaf
thine ear: O rend the heavens, come
quickly down, and make a thousand
hearts thine own!**

WILLIAM COWPER (1731–1800)
A&M 696

We would love you to give financially to the life and mission of St John's, please scan the QR Code below with your smart device. There is also a card reader by the door of the church and cash plate at the back of church. Thank you for your generosity!



Preparation of the Altar

The Offertory

The Altar is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you: fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. For by your word the heavens were made, and all their host by the breath of your mouth. You formed us in your image, the crown of your creation, and entrusted us with the works of your hands. In your great goodness you sent your Son, the firstborn of all creation, who holds all things together in himself, and through whom you make all things new.

You have given us the first-fruits of the Spirit, as creation itself waits with eager longing to obtain the glorious freedom of the children of God. And so, with angels and archangels and with all that you have made, we join the song of your glory, forever praising you and singing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Please kneel.

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son. On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: *Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.*

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them 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.*

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died

Christ is risen

Christ will come again.

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St John the Divine, St Mathias, St Mary Magdalene and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

The Great Amen is sung.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

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.

Breaking of the Bread

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

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

Agnus Dei

**Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us,
Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us,
Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

The Church of England welcomes baptised members of all Christian traditions to receive Communion. If it is your usual practice to receive Communion, you are very welcome to do so here.

Everyone is invited to come to the altar rail for a blessing if you do not wish to receive Communion.

If you would like to know more about Baptism or Confirmation, please do speak to the clergy.

During the distribution of Holy Communion, the choir sing:

God that madest earth and heaven (trad. Welsh, arr. Thorne)

Prayer after Holy Communion

We say together:

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.

The Notices

Information about our life together is shared.

Act of Commitment for the Care of Creation

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 affirm our commitment to care actively for God's creation.

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.

We sing our **Final Hymn.**

I O Lord my God, when I in awesome
wonder
consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty 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!'*

2 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:

3 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:

4 When Christ shall come with shout of
acclamation
and take me home — what joy shall fill my
heart!
Then shall I bow in humble adoration
and there proclaim, 'My God, how great
thou art!'

STUART K. HINE (1899–1989)
A&M 546

The Blessing

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

May God the Father, whose glory is
proclaimed in the heavens, awaken in you
a delight and wonder in this good creation.
Amen.

May God the Son, the Word made flesh,
through whom all things were made, fill
you with his risen life. **Amen.**

May God the Holy Spirit, who hovered
over the waters of creation and formed
the world from chaos, form you in the
likeness of Christ and renew the face of
the earth. **Amen.**

May almighty God bless you, the Father,
and the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Allegro Heathcote Statham

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR REFRESHMENTS AFTER OUR WORSHIP!