

Transformation – NOW!
CREATION

Hymn: For the fruits of all creation
sung by St Martin's Voices

Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000)
© 1970 Stainer & Bell Ltd.

For the fruits of all creation,
thanks be to God;
for the gifts to every nation,
thanks be to God;
for the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe-keeping,
thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labour,
God's will is done;
in the help we give our neighbour,
God's will is done;
in our world-wide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit,
thanks be to God;
for the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God;

for the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all that love has found us,
thanks be to God.

Opening Prayer

In every acorn
there is the potential for a forest;
In every apple pip
there is the potential for an orchard;
In every soul
there is the potential for your kingdom
to be established;
full of joy and peace and love.
Lord, may your kingdom come
in us and in all your creation.

©Archbishops' Council

Bible reading: Matthew 6:9-13

Good News Bible

This, then, is how you should pray:

‘Our Father in heaven:

 May your holy name be honoured;
may your Kingdom come;

 may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today the food we need.

Forgive us the wrongs we have done,

 as we forgive the wrongs that others have done to us.

Do not bring us to hard testing,

 but keep us safe from the Evil One.’

Reflection: Jesus taught us to pray

Loving God, we remember that Jesus taught us to pray saying, "Our Father..."

You created us, you made this world, and you called your creation very good.

Yet often we forget that you are our loving Parent who continues to bless your world.

Jesus told us that you are "...in heaven..."

Yet we fail to live in awe of you. We take you for granted, and we don't see the awesome beauty of the world you have made.

We pray, "Hallowed be your name..."

We confess that our reverence for you does not always lead us to care reverently for your earth, sky and sea.

We pray, "Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven..."

We confess that we often put our own interests first-exploiting your creation, and living for our own convenience and self-interest.

We pray, "Give us today our daily bread."

We confess that we consume more than our share of the world's resources, while billions go hungry every day and your whole creation suffers.

We pray, "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us."

We confess that we see these words only in spiritual terms, while the Bible is filled with teachings about economic justice and creation care.

We pray, "Save us from the time of trial."

**Help us to resist the temptations of spending more,
using more, acquiring more, and wasting more.**

We pray, "Deliver us from evil..."

**Free us from greed and self-centeredness
that separate us from you and others.**

We pray, "For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now
and forever."

**Help us to know that in caring for your wonderful world, we
are working for your kingdom,
being good stewards of your creative power, and giving you
glory.**

We pray, "Amen."

**We end our prayers with "Amen," a word that means "let it
be so."**

We know we can be faithful disciples by your grace. Amen!

written by Revd Bruce and Revd Carolyn Gillette

Hymn: For the beauty of the earth

sung by St Martin's Voices

Folliott Sandford Pierpoint (1835-1917)

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.*

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:

Chorus

For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild:

Chorus

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

Chorus

Prayers: Thank you God

From the Iona Community

Thank you, God,
thanks for beauty:
the twinkle in an older person's eye,
a child's shout of laughter;
thanks for greening trees and frozen waterfalls,
stunning buildings and flowerbeds in summer.

Thank you, God,
thanks for creativity:
the skills of a tapestry weaver,
the imagination of a web designer;
thanks for bakers and dancers and crossword compilers,
for spiders' webs and city murals.

Thank you, God,
thanks for abundance:
for seeds and raindrops,
for grains of sand and infinite galaxies;
thanks for seagulls, plankton and shoals of mackerel,
for wriggling worms and golden dandelions.

Thanks for your world, God,
and for our part in it.
Thanks that you are a maker,
and that you made us makers too.
Help us to love creation as you love it,
to take risks to value it as Jesus did,
and draw us into the wildness and wonder
of your Holy Spirit
today and every day.
Amen.

Mary Sumner Prayer

All this day, O Lord,
let me touch as many lives as possible for thee;
and every life I touch,
do thou by thy spirit quicken:
whether through the word I speak,
the prayer I breathe,
or the life I live.
Amen.

Mary Sumner's personal prayer ©Mothers' Union

Hymn: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation
sung by St Martin's Voices

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation:
all ye who hear,
now to his temple draw near,
joining in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shieldeth thee gently from harm, or when fainting sustaineth:
hast thou not seen
how thy heart's wishes have been
granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend thee:
ponder anew
what the Almighty can do,
if to the end he befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen
sound from his people again:
gladly for aye we adore him!

*Joachim Neander (1650-1680),
translated by Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878),
adapted by the compilers of Hymns Ancient and Modern.*

Act of Commitment

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.**

May the commitment we have made this day
be matched by our faithful living.

Amen.

©Archbishops' Council

Material: as stated

Theme music: 'Overflowing grace' by Catherine Hilton

Theme image: Lucjan on Pixabay.com

Readers: Bob Taylor, Barbara Taylor, Joy and Ian Butterworth,
Karen Best, Doreen Smith, Denise Smith

CCLI: 5097385

**1st November
CREATED EQUAL BY GOD**