

New Beginnings/Excellence

W/C Monday 11th September – Friday 16th September 2023

Season of Creation



Monday 11th September

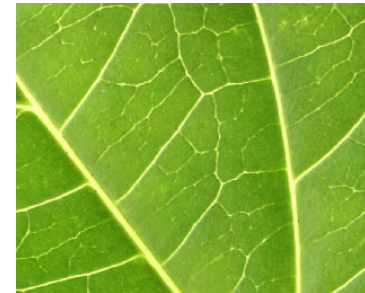
“In the beginning, when God created the universe.....” Genesis 1

The bible teaches us that the universe has been created by God and we are part of creation. “God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.” Excellence is all around us.

What in creation astounds, surprises or challenges you to believe in a creator God?

The Watchmaker animation (The design argument)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HwEhSsltU6k>



Thank you God for the excellence of creation, the beauty and majesty of the world we live in. Help us to value the gift of this world to preserve it for future generations.

Amen



**Today is the anniversary of the 9/11
attack in New York on 9th September 2001**

God of all nations, look
with favour upon those
affected by this event as
we remember the tragic
terrorist attacks of 9/11.
Be our source of strength,
healing and comfort.

God of wisdom and
compassion, You create
eventual blessings out of
every kind of evil.

Amen

Tuesday 12th September

The Canticle of Creation by St Francis of Assisi (adapted)

***All-powerful, creator God,
to you belong praise, glory, honour and all blessing.
We praise you for all your creation,
for our Brother Sun, who brings us the day and the light.
We praise you for Sister Moon, and for the stars which you have set shining in the heavens.
We praise you God for the wind, air and weather and for precious water
We praise you for Sister Earth, who nourishes us and sustains us,
We praise and bless you, Lord,
and we give you thanks
May we serve you with humility.
Amen***

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock
and the door will be opened to you.

(Matthew 7:7)

*In striving for excellence it is important to remember that we do God's
work on earth. Jesus reminds us in Matthew's Gospel to seek God.
In our learning and our lives we pray that we find God in all things.*

Lord, we come to you before we begin our day's work:
we ask you to bless this day.

May we find whatever is good in the tasks we are set
and the time that we share.

Help us when we find some things too hard to understand;
Teach us to be fair and generous with one another;
So may we thank you for a day well spent. Amen.



Wednesday 13th September

God of Creation and Lord of Life

God of creation and Lord of life, you entrusted us to care for our environment, but in many parts of the world we have failed.

Help us to realise how fragile and unstable our surroundings are, because we are not looking after creation.

We need to be true stewards and to understand how the most insignificant little flowers, and the tiniest insects, each creature and individual

people are all part of a wondrous whole.

Amen

Margaret Pickford

2018 Women's World Day of Prayer



FCJ Prayer for Creation

**Creator God, we give thanks for the wonderful gift of creation
and your presence in every part of it.**

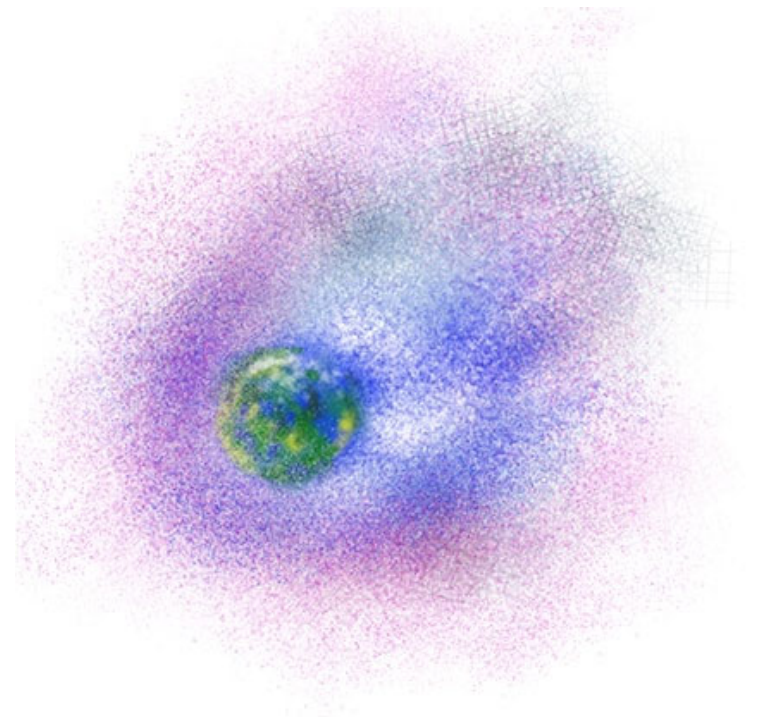
**As we seek to widen our circle of love,
help us to rediscover the value, unity
and sacredness of all that exists.**

**We seek forgiveness for the ways in which our actions
and our choices have damaged the earth,
affecting the climate, destroying diversity,
and impacting the lives of the poorest of our sisters and brothers.**

**In your love, lead us into solidarity and companionship,
inspire our leaders to courageous decisions,
and grant each of us the wisdom and commitment to act.**

**May we treasure earth's resources,
work to reduce our impact on the climate
and be open to a conversion of heart and lifestyle.**

Amen



Thursday 14th September

***Today is the feast
of the Exultation of
the Holy Cross.
We remember the
sacrifice of Jesus
on the cross.***



Spend a time of silence reflecting on the crucifixion and what it means to you. We remember Mary and the female followers of Jesus who stood at the foot of the cross, with Jesus to the very end. We ask for forgiveness for our sins.

Reckless Love by Cory Astbury <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sc6SSHuZvQE>

**Lord, teach me to be generous:
to serve you as you deserve;
to give and not to count the cost;
to fight and not to heed the wounds;
to toil and not to seek to rest;
to labour and to ask for no reward
save that of knowing I do your will.
Amen.**



The background of the entire image is a photograph of a vast field of sunflowers in the foreground, stretching towards a horizon. The sky above is filled with soft, wispy clouds, and the sun is setting or rising, creating a warm, golden glow that illuminates the scene. The colors transition from a pale blue at the top to a deep orange and yellow near the horizon.

Friday 15th September

Be silent and place yourself in God's loving presence. Think about the good things that have happened this week and give thanks.

Who have you left a good memory with this week?

Look back over your week. What were the joys, what were the challenges

As you look ahead, with what spirit will you enter next week?

Ask God to help you.