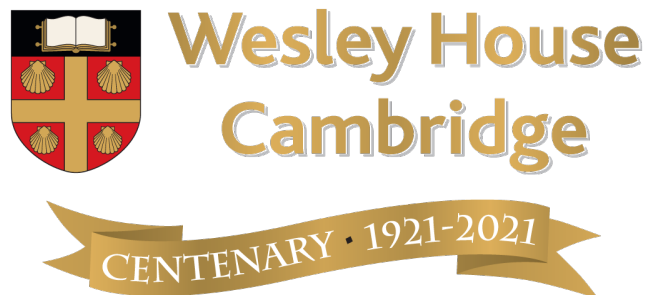


Lament to Action
Exploring and Caring for Creation Through Science
Eucharist

5.30pm, Tuesday 3rd May 2022
Downing Place United Reformed Church

Led by The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion
and Wesley House

This liturgy is available for download at faraday.institute/liturgy



Introduction – Dr Ruth Bancewicz, Faraday Church Engagement Director

Leader: Let us worship the Creator and Saviour of all creation.

All: Open our hearts and minds to all his wonderful works.

Hymn

Stars and planets sing your glory,
God of might and God of love;
time and space proclaim your story
written in the realms above.
All the beauty of the cosmos,
summoned by your great command
gathered shape; while out of nothing
matter formed, as you had planned.

Power beyond our wildest dreaming:
forces weak and forces strong
melded in the cosmic streaming
when the universe was young.
Out of chaos, spheres and orbits
found their form through ages long:
and creation's still unfolding
in a great ongoing song.

Here on earth a mighty wonder
brought about life's earliest trace,
basis for both plants and creatures,
and in time, the human race:
Though we've grown in understanding
sin has torn this earth apart,
pitched against it we were helpless,
captive to our wayward hearts.

So the God who shaped the cosmos
set aside all power and might;
came, a humble human baby
in the darkness, God's own light:
taught us through his life of loving
how he would redeem our race,
by the death and resurrection
of the God of time and space.

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Col 1:15-20 (NRSV)

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.

For God's holy word

All: We give thanks and praise.

Confession (please listen to the music of the first verse & chorus before joining in)

Hear the song of our lament,
we grieve a dry and broken land;
hearts have turned from your intent
and earth is ravaged by our hand.

Oceans weep for beauty lost,
and forests plead for your return,
fields are drenched in tears and blood;
all nature groans beneath sin's curse.

*Have mercy, have mercy,
have mercy on us, Lord.
Renew us, restore us,
have mercy on us, Lord.*

Peoples rage and nations rise
to war and waste for senseless gain,
turning from creation's cries
and trading glory in for shame.

Have mercy...

Lead us in your Eden call
to live as those who bear your name;
show us how to love your world
until the day you come again.

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Leader: May God who loved His creation so much that he sent his Son to be our Saviour forgive us our sins and make us holy to serve him in the world through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen. The creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed.

All: Thank you, Father, that through your Son Jesus Christ, his death for us, and His resurrection to new life, humanity has been set free, and the whole creation will be redeemed.

Collect

Almighty God, Creator and Redeemer of all that is, source and foundation of time and space, matter and energy, life and consciousness: Grant us and all who study the mysteries of your creation, grace to be true witnesses to your glory and faithful stewards of your gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

John 1: 1-5, 9-14 (NRSV)

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it...The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognise him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Interview

Cara Parrett, Marine Biologist and Faraday Youth and Schools team

The Creed

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

All: We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

All: We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

All: We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

**All: This is our faith.
We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Intercession

Prayers for scientists, students and teachers, by Prof Paul Ewart, Faraday Institute Director.
Prayers for the rest of creation

The Peace

Through Jesus Christ, God was pleased to reconcile all things to himself, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through His blood on the cross. The peace of the Lord be always with you

All: and also with you.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

All: and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give thanks and praise.

Lord of all life,
you created the universe,
where all living things reflect your glory.
You give us this great and beautiful earth,
to discover and to cherish.

You give us the fish in the sea,
the birds of the air,
and every plant and tree;
the life that sleeps in the winter earth,
and awakens again in the spring.

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

We thank you, loving Father,
because, when we turned away,
you sent Jesus, your Son.
He gave his life for us on the cross

and shows us the way to live.

Send your Holy Spirit
that these gifts of bread and wine
may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

On the night before he died,
when darkness had fallen,
Jesus took bread.
He gave thanks, broke it,
and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This is my body, given for you.
Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine,
gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many,
for the forgiveness of sins.'

So Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life.
As you feed us with these gifts,
send your Holy Spirit,
and change us more and more
to be like Jesus our Saviour.

Help us, Father, to love one another,
as we look forward to that day
when suffering is ended,
and all creation is gathered in your loving arms.

And now with all your saints
we give you glory,
through Jesus Christ,
in the strength of the Spirit,
today and for ever.

All: Amen.

Let us pray with confidence as our saviour has taught us

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,**

**and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

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.**

Giving of Communion

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.
All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Conclusion

Praise him, you heavens
and all that's above.
Praise him, you angels
and heavenly hosts.
Let the whole Earth praise him.

Praise him, the sun, moon
and bright shining stars.
Praise him, you heavens
and waters and skies.
Let the whole Earth praise him.

Great in power, great in glory,
great in mercy, King of Heaven.
Great in battle, great in wonder,
great in Zion, King over all the Earth.

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The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendour into it. On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. The glory and honour of the nations will be brought into it. (Revelation 21.23–26, NRSV)

Gracious and glorious God, we praise you that there will be a welcome in the new heaven and earth for all that is good in human discovery and achievement. We live in hope for those times when all suffering will be over. Help us throughout this coming week to live and work in ways that honour you. Help us through your Spirit to value truth and knowledge and to work with your Son,

our saviour, to bring peace and justice to all. And to you be all praise and honour in time and eternity. Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: In the name of Christ. Amen.

Parts of this liturgy have been adapted from:

"Stewards of Creation" Communion Service by Adrian Thompson, [the John Ray Initiative](#)

A Celebration: Order of Service by [Trevor Thorn](#)

Collect from [the Society of Ordained Scientists](#)

[Celebrating God's Creation - an all-age service resource](#) (from Test of Faith, by the Faraday Institute)