



Poem: Look at the Birds

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4_jgwcJVcqq

Song: Here our Prayer by Don Meon (audio)

Hear our prayer
 We are your children and
 We've gathered here today
 We've gathered here to pray

Hear our cry, Lord we need your mercy
 And we need your grace today
 Hear us as we pray

Our father who art in heaven
 Hallowed be thy name'
 Our father hear us from heaven
 Forgive our sins we pray

Hymn: All things bright and beautiful

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cXFCZQDqIQ8>

Chorus

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

1. Each little flower that opens
 Each little bird that sings
 He made their glowing colours
 He made their tiny wings
2. He gave us eyes to see them
 And lips that we might tell
 How great is God Almighty
 Who has made all things well

CCLI Song # 1510282

Prayer

O God, for whom and through whom all things exist, today, in this congregation with your faithful people everywhere, and with all creation, we join in praising you.

For you are praised by all you have made: the angels in heaven and the sun, moon and stars; mountains and trees and all the forces of nature; animals and birds and creepy crawlies - all creation praises you!

Rulers and the lowliest of people, young and old, men and women alike - together, all your people praise you!

We praise you that, in your gracious love for us you did not send an angel or a messenger to

bring salvation. Instead, you sent your very Son, born in a manger to Mary and Joseph, living a human life with all its joys and perils, suffering and dying and being raised to life so that we would all become the sisters and brothers of Jesus.

We thank you that you walk with us every day. May we honour, worship and adore you with every fibre of our being. On this day we join with all those who worship and confess you as Lord, from generations past and present, and with all the angels that sing in heaven of your greatness and splendour. Lord we adore you. Lord we love you. Lord we bow down and worship you.

A responsive prayer based on the Lord's Prayer

All: God in heaven, sacred is Your Name.

Leader: Source of all that is and ever shall be, God of all people. Living one, God revealed yet Mystery, God unlimited Creator and Healer, Loving Parent in whom we discern heaven

All: Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Lead: May knowledge of Your Holiness inspire all peoples, and may Your Kingdom of peace and freedom flourish on earth, wherever there is violence and hatred – Your Kingdom come. Wherever there is oppression and injustice – Your Kingdom come. Wherever there is segregation and alienation– Your Kingdom come.

All: Give us today our daily bread.

Lead: Bread of life, feed us with all that nourishes our souls. Help us to be gracious in our giving and humble in our receiving. May we find the bread that we need for today and when we can be tempted to want for more and more, help us to know what enough is.

All: Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead: Forgive us when we cause division acting without compassion or care. Forgive us when we choose to ignore the way of love. Forgive us for the hurts we cause one another. May we be forgiven in the same measure that we forgive.

All: Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

Lead: In times of trial and temptation, help us to be strong; when life seems overwhelming, help us to endure. Comfort all who are suffering in their hearts, in their minds, in their souls and in their bodies; give them health, hope and peace.

All: For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and forever. AMEN

Bohemian waxwings arrive in undulating, chirruping troops, sometimes in their hundreds (more pics of waxwings)



Email from Darren (one of the many bird-watchers who visited our church) – email and painting used with permission

Good evening, Tom. Great to meet you briefly yesterday, and thanks for allowing us access to view the fab Waxwings. Such beautiful birds!!! Think they have stripped the trees of fruit by the Bankhead roundabout and now seem to be feasting by the Sighthill roundabout nearby. As promised here is an image from one of my paintings of them.



Bible Reading: Matthew 6:25-27

“Therefore, I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life.”

Mark 5:36

Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, “Don’t be afraid; just believe.”

Reflection: ‘I guess someone forgot to tell the birds’

Song/ offering: His eyes is on the sparrow

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qn0mWsG7-q4&t=18s>

Prayers for offerings and others

Rejoicing with all creation, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. God of all creation, with all creation we join in praise. We also give thanks for these favourite animals in our household or larger family of earth now

We pray today as one among many, as one species surrounded by millions. So we think of those who are close, like the chickens, crows, seagulls and those farther away and more foreign to us, in jungles and deserts, on mountains and in the depths of seas. In all of this, we ask your blessing on these creatures and sustenance in their habitats.

We give thanks for political movements that care for creation, for nations working together on climate change, and for organizations that motivate us to take up this challenge. Expand our hearts and strengthen us for sacrificial love.

We pray for the health of creatures who are at risk, for snow leopards, elephants, for karnar blue butterflies and, for those suffering from too much rain - for farmers, those with flooded homes, and creatures around there, for all these places of concern, for animals as well as the people we worry about and which we name now, silent or aloud.

Celebrating the beauty of creation’s habitats, we praise you for the blessing of hardworking and deeply caring hands that have made them, and pray for all the places around this world.

In the promise that you chose us and, in the fullness of time, will gather all things on earth into your embrace, bring us with all creation around your throne in eternal praise. Gather all these prayers and whatever else you see we need as we join together with these concluding words:

All: Jesus Christ, teach us to empathize with Earth. Make our spirits sensitive to the cries of creation, for justice from the land, the seas, and the skies. Jesus Christ, make our faith sensitive to the longing groans of the Spirit in creation. Jesus Christ, make our hearts sensitive to the songs of our kin, celebrations from the sea, the forest, and the air. Christ, teach us to care. Amen

Final Song: How great Thou art

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QNiNZab-Jk&t=154s>

Final blessings

May the strength of God sustain us;
may the power of God preserve us;
may the hands of God protect us;
may the way of God direct us;
may the love of God go with us this day
and forever

And may the grace...

After the service:

And I know whom I have believed

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bRV3J4n8cc&t=14s>