

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ 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.

[NRSV John 1:1-14]

This is the Gospel of the Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sentence:

And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind."
And it was so.

Earth Sunday

Season of Creation
5th September 2021

Year B

Green

Prayer of the Day:

God of all,
we thank you for the gift of earth, and of the Earth.
We give thanks for your Son, our Lord,
who walked upon earth, bringing light to darkness.
Lighten our darkness, O God,
the darkness of our impulsive desire to dominate and domesticate.
Inspire, us through the Spirit, to hear the voice of this Earth.

Amen.

A reading from the book of Genesis

Chapter 1: beginning at verse 1.

¹ In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth,
² the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep,
while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³ Then God
said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light
was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the
light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and
there was morning, the first day.

⁶ And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it
separate the waters from the waters." ⁷ So God made the dome and
separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were
above the dome. And it was so. ⁸ God called the dome Sky. And there was
evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹ And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into
one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the
dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas.
And God saw that it was good. ¹¹ Then God said, "Let the earth put
forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth
that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. ¹² The earth brought forth
vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind
bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good.

¹³ And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.
¹⁴ And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶ God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷ God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸ to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰ And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." ²¹ So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²² God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth."
²³ And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴ And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. ²⁵ God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

[NRSV *Genesis 1: 1-25*]

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God**

Psalm 33: 1-9 ABPA p 252-253

- 1 Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous:
for it befits the just to praise him.
- 2 Give the Lord thanks upon the harp:
and sing his praises to the lute of ten strings.
- 3 O sing to him a new song:
make sweetest melody, with shouts of praise.
- 4 For the word of the Lord is true:
and all his work are faithful.
- 5 He loves righteousness and justice:
the earth is filled of the loving-kindness of the Lord.
- 6 By the word of the Lord were the heavens made:
and their numberless stars the breath of his mouth.

- 7 He gathered the waters of the sea as in a water-skin:
and laid up the deep in his treasuries.
- 8 Let the whole earth fear the Lord:
and let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.
- 9 For he spoke, and was done:
he commanded, and it stood fast.

*A reading from the Letter to the Romans,
Chapter 1 beginning at Verse 18*

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and wickedness of those who by their wickedness suppress the truth. ¹⁹ For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. ²⁰ Ever since the creation of the world his eternal power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been understood and seen through the things he has made. So they are without excuse; ²¹ for though they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their senseless minds were darkened. ²² Claiming to be wise, they became fools; ²³ and they exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling a mortal human being or birds or four-footed animals or reptiles.

[NRSV *Romans 1:18-23*]

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

*The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John,
Chapter 1 beginning at verse 1*

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.