

Sunday 7th February 2021

The Second Sunday before Lent Creation Sunday



Today's Gospel reading: John 1: 1-14

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St John
Glory to you, O Lord.

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

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

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

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

Today we think about God the Creator, but remember that St John tells us, in this beautiful introduction to his gospel, that all things were created through the light who came into the world.

Who do you think is this "true light which enlightens everyone"?

If you are not sure, read the Gospel passage carefully again – there are loads of clues in the last paragraph!

When we think about all that God created, we may think of the natural world, especially at this time of year, with the first signs of spring appearing. We may think of the oceans and all the life in them. We may think about the wider universe – the Sun, moon and stars... reaching out into deep space. We may bring it closer to home and think of the wonderful diversity of people in creation.

We remember today that, sadly, all is not well with the wonderful world that God created. We need to work together to take more care of creation and to share the resources of the earth.

Which part of creation would you like to give thanks for today?

Perhaps you could write a prayer, thanking God and asking for his blessing on our efforts to take better care of the earth.

Here is the "Collect" – the Church's special prayer for this Sunday:

Almighty God,
you have created the heavens and the earth
and made us in your own image:
teach us to discern your hand in all your works
and your likeness in all your children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for
ever. Amen.

If you are following our service online, listen to the Motet, sung by members
of the choir during Communion. Here are the words:

Look at the world, ev'rything all around us;
Look at the world, and marvel ev'ry day.
Look at the world: so many joys and wonders,
So many miracles along our way.
Praise to thee, O Lord, for all creation.
Give us thankful hearts, that we may see;
All the gifts we share, and ev'ry blessing,
All things come of thee.

Look at the earth bringing forth fruit and flower;
Look at the sky, the sun-shine and the rain;
Look at the hills, look at the trees and mountains,
Valley and flowing river, field and plain.
Praise to thee, O Lord, for all creation.
Give us thankful hearts, that we may see;
All the gifts we share, and ev'ry blessing,
All things come of thee.

Words and Music: John Rutter b. 1945

Some pictures for you to print and colour:

JOHN 1:1 & 14

In the beginning,

WAS THE WORD

and the Word was
with God, and the

WORD WAS GOD.



**AND THE WORD
BECAME
FLESH**

and dwelt among us.

In the beginning
was the Word,
and the Word
was with God,
and the Word
was God.
He was with
God in the
beginning.

John 1:1-2