

Sunday 4th February 2024

The Second Sunday before Lent Creation Sunday



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

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.

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.

Name: _____ Date: _____

John 1:1-13

H P M J F G F S B E G I N N I N G
T C S S E N K R A D X U D K U P L
H Z L Y B N B A N J S S H Q K F C
G P L L I R Y C Y S H U C T F H I
I W Q W G F S G Y R E C E I V E X
L F T W I T N E S S R H M N U L I
C D A T Q N T B D I K E W Q N P O
M B S B F R S O R E C O G N I Z E
D E J E U M G J U H E H V M Z X I
T N P E P W O R L D X F C D M H Y
C J J P X H F N R O B L I A K B Z
L X V B N J G Y L G A W H L D I N
O E Y X B E D A M R W O R D H D J
F W O K J M X L U U P D M Y G V D
P Q K T D N J T C H I L D R E N C
P C T K G U A F E D U K B Y W N Y
M Q C F A N H E V E I L E B F H P

own	true	world	Word	witness
testify	recognize	receive	natural	made
light	life	John	God	darkness
children	born	believe	beginning	

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