

Collect: *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.*

Colossians 1.15–20

¹⁵ Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ 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.

John 1.1–14

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 in him was life, ⁴ 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. 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.

Post Communion: *God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of your Church: may we who have been nourished at your table on earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity: through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*A sleeping world emerges
to new possibilities,
weakening winter's icy grip,
and birdsong and bleating lamb
announce to all the promise
that in due season
creation bursts into life.
And whilst leaves that fell in winter
lie upon the ground,
soon to feed the earth,
in nature's wondrous cycle
of death and rebirth,
within the tree is a stirring
of new growth.*

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Please pray for: The Deanery Synod as they meet this week and for our two representatives. All those living with conditions which make life difficult and for those who share their burdens. For all NHS and other medical staff.

Those who are unwell: Judy Vine, Lottie Rann, Eiry Longhurst, Albert Smith, Dorothy Wood, Peter Atkins, Dennis Perry, Noel Toogood, Natalia Anderson, Mary Teague, Norman, Joan Searle, Henry Adams and Janice Jacobs

RIP: Simon Ball, Delyth Walker, Raymond Saunders, Nicholas Frampton and Phil Brown

RIP Anniversaries: George Townsend, Denis Young, Baden Windeler (Sun), Elaine Henderson (Mon), Doris Whittington, Doris Crockford (Fri),