

THE UNITED PARISH

Newnham with Nately Scures with Mapledurwell with Up Nately with Greywell

A service of

Holy Communion

to celebrate God's creation
and to commit ourselves
to its safekeeping

*The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it.*

Psalm 24.1

The Right Reverend Trevor Wilmott, Bishop of Dover

I welcome this opportunity both to celebrate and commend these new resources which Matthew Rushton has given to the life of the church.

Green is not only the colour of ordinary but also the colour of growth.

I hope and pray that these resources will bring enrichment both to individual and community but perhaps more importantly remind us that this world is God's gift for us all to cherish and sustain.

+Trevor

ECO  **CHURCH**

AN A ROCHA UK PROJECT

Welcome and Notices

The Lord be with you; **and also with you.**

Hymn

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,
how majestic is your name in all the earth;
you dry up the green tree
and make the dry tree flourish;
in your hand is the life of every living thing
and the breath of every human being;
As your Son made the multitude to sit down on the green grass
and fed them with the bread of life,
make us to lie down in green pastures
and lead us beside still waters;
so that, like a tree planted by water,
which does not fear the heat but whose leaves shall stay green,
we may be refreshed and sustained in you,
and honour the everlasting covenant
you have established with your creation,
for you have seen that it is very good.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.

Prayers of Penitence

Human sin disfigures the whole creation, which groans with eager longing for God's redemption. We confess our sin in penitence and faith.

We confess to you our lack of care for the world you have given us.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

We confess to you our selfishness in not sharing the earth's bounty fairly.
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

We confess to you our failure to protect resources for others.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

May the Father of all mercies cleanse you from your sins, and restore you in his image to the praise and glory of his name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

We say:

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you,
we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are
seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone
are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of
God the Father.**

Amen.

Or sing:

Glory to God! Our hearts to you we raise!

Joy and peace on earth, in highest heaven praise!

**Songs of adoration, Lord to you we bring,
praising your great goodness, Father, heav'nly King.**

Glory to God! Our hearts to you we raise!

Joy and peace on earth, in highest heaven praise!

**Son of the Father, bearing this world's sin,
Lamb of God, have mercy, grant us peace within.**

**You, O Christ are holy, you alone are Lord,
with the Holy Spirit, ever more adored.**

Glory to God our hearts to you we raise!

Joy and peace on earth, in highest heaven praise!

The Collect

The First Lesson

At the end

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Gospel Reading

(remain standing)

Alleluia, Alleluia. You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power. For you created all things.

Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to [N].

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers

(please sit or kneel)

God the Father, source of all living things,
have mercy on us.

God the Son, redeemer of the created order,
have mercy on us.

God the Holy Spirit, conceiver of hope on earth and in heaven,
have mercy on us.

From false worship, shallow prayers
and failure to honour your created world:
good Lord, deliver us and take away from the earth our disgrace.

From self-centred interpretations of your Holy Word:
good Lord, deliver us and take away from the earth our disgrace.

From all complacency and arrogance,
and for exalting ourselves above you:
good Lord, deliver us and take away from the earth our disgrace.

From profligacy and seeking our own comfort above others:
good Lord, deliver us and forgive our greed.

From wasteful use of light, heat, energy and water:
good Lord, deliver us and forgive our greed.

From laziness and reluctance to make necessary changes to routines:
good Lord, deliver us and forgive our greed.

Give us wisdom to tend the land for the benefit of all.
Have mercy on us and protect the earth's abundance.

Encourage us to take risks and stand against self-interest
in allowing the earth to flourish.
Have mercy on us and protect the earth's abundance.

Grow our generosity that we may share our space with our communities.
Have mercy on us and protect the earth's abundance.

Open our eyes to the sufferings of our neighbours across the world
and enlarge our hearts to helping those in need.
Have mercy on us and restore the world's hope.

Remove from us all cowardly despair and political expediency.

Have mercy on us and restore the world's hope.

Show us our common inheritance and responsibilities and challenge our false divisions and prejudice.

Have mercy on us and restore the world's hope.

Expose in us all hypocrisy and unfulfilled promises.

Lord, hear us and renew your creation.

Connect our good intentions to change our behaviour with our realised actions to care for our environment.

Lord, hear us and renew your creation.

Makes us faithful disciples through word and deed and witness as we share in your abundance and serve your world.

Lord, hear us and renew your creation.

**Holy Creator,
Holy and life-giving Word,
Holy and sustaining Spirit,
have mercy on us.**

Pardon our offences against your gifts in creation, and forgive us for squandering your abundance; refresh us and remake us, that, when all things are renewed, we will go out in joy and be led back in peace, we will join with the mountains and hills and burst into songs, we will clap our hands with the trees of the field, and join with the whole creation in eternal praise, in the new heaven and new earth, and for all eternity.

Amen.

The Peace

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, so shall the word that goes out from the mouth of the Lord not return empty, but accomplish the Lord's purpose and succeed in that for which it was sent. For you shall go out in joy and be led back in peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Hymn

Preparation of the Table

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this bread to set before you,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us the cup of salvation.

Blessed be God for ever.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

Father, we give you thanks and praise for your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. He is the image of the unseen God, the first-born of all creation. He created all things in heaven and on earth: everything visible and everything invisible, thrones, dominions, sovereignties, powers, all things were created through him and for him.

He is the radiant light of your glory: he holds all creation together by his word of power.

He is first to be born from the dead. All perfection is found in him, and all things were reconciled through him and for him, everything in heaven and everything on earth, when he made peace by his death on the cross.

The Church is his body, he is its head. He takes his place in heaven at your right hand, where we worship you with all of your creation, saying/singing:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with all the saints to feast at your table in heaven. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Filled with awe at the wonders and works of God, as our Saviour taught us so we pray

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

Agnus Dei

(we sing or say together)

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.**

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.
Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

*All children and adults are welcome at the altar to receive communion or a blessing.
If you wish to receive a blessing, please keep your hands below the rail.)*

During communion we may sing (from the music of the Taizé community):
**O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.**

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept

Lord God of all creation, as your Son, when he had fed the multitude, instructed the disciples to gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost, so gather us, whom you have fed in this holy sacrament, fill us with love for your living world, and refresh us and the whole creation to serve and praise you for ever; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Act of Eco Commitment

Noah made sacrifice to the Lord God, and the Lord said in his heart 'I will never again curse the ground because of humankind.' As we offer our own sacrifice of prayer and thanksgiving, we pledge ourselves to honour the everlasting covenant between God, the creator of all things who loves the world, and the creation which responds in joyful praise.

Let us pray.

**Lord God, the earth is yours and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it;
hear our prayer, accept our service and receive our pledge:**

May our worship honour your generous gifts; may we explore together our responsibilities to the creation of which we are a part, in preaching and teaching, in prayer and praise:

for the earth is yours and all that is in it.

May our church buildings be houses of prayer, temples to your glory, and signs of the renewing power of your grace to sustain and refresh all life; may our use and development of the resources we have inherited be an example of careful nurturing of discipleship and fruitful witness:

for the earth is yours and all that is in it.

May we allow the land we occupy to flourish in your care; may we share and protect both open space and managed earth, and build community with and through the land and all it sustains:

for the earth is yours and all that is in it.

May we live as the body of Christ, fostering relationships within our local and global communities, and raising awareness of how our actions affect our brothers and sisters across the world, having a particular care for the poorest and most vulnerable:

for the earth is yours and all that is in it.

May we show in our lives what we claim in our words, revealing in our discipleship our love for you, for each other, and for your world, following your command to bear fruit that will last:

for the earth is yours and all that is in it.

Lord God, we pledge ourselves to your service in caring for your creation, that your kingdom may grow from the seed of hope into a tree of righteousness and justice for the world, and the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn

The Blessing and Dismissal

(please stand)

May God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the source of all goodness and growth, pour his blessing upon all things created, and upon you his children, that you may use his gifts to his glory and the welfare of all peoples; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord of creation.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

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THE UNITED PARISH



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**Journeying together,
we worship God and serve the community**

Our Mission is to:

- ✝ work together to grow God's kingdom**
- ✝ reach out to the whole community to share His love**
- ✝ be inclusive, relevant and Christlike**

www.united-parish.org.uk