



Virtual Rogation Service



You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands

Isaiah 55:12

Sunday 17th May 2020

1030 – 1105am via Zoom

Rogation 2020

Introductory Words

We come before you our God and Sustainer,
remembering that you are our Creator and the source of all being.
Out of your love the universe was born. From primordial darkness you put in
place all that is needed for growth and saw that it was good.
You have put this world into our hands: may we recognise your Spirit within it,
disturbing and challenging us to care for creation, for the weak and the
deprived.

God our Creator, you have ordered seedtime, sunshine, rain and harvest.
You have created the seed, soil and water so there may be food for all your
people. May we honour and care for these elements that sustain our earthly
life. As the food nourishes our body may we be filled with praise and
thanksgiving for our Creator.

Lord we remember that we are called by you to nourish the earth and its
diversity of life,
to share the gifts you have given, with one another and with the poor of the
world, Amen.

Confession

**Almighty God, you have created what we humans need to sustain our earthly
lives. We confess that we have neglected to care for your creation.
We have carelessly used the air soil and water.
We have forgotten how to love. We have forsaken the needs of future
generations. We are more concerned with our own interests than the needs
of others. Forgive us and set us on a new path pleasing to you.**

Absolution

Through Jesus Christ God knows us and accepts
us as we are. God hears our prayers and forgives
us all our sins. Walk forth renewed and refreshed
on the pathway of life.

Reading: Psalm 147:7-9

Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving:



Make Music to our God on the harps.

He covers the sky with clouds;

**He supplies the earth with rain
and makes grass grow on the hills.**

He provides food for the cattle
And for the young ravens when they call.

Praise the Lord.



Reading: John 14:15-21

¹⁵ “If you love me, keep my commands. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be^[a] in you. ¹⁸ I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹ Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.”

Sermon

Blessing of the seed

(Seeds are scooped up and poured back)

God you have given us these seeds

They have a past. They are the fruit of the past.

They have a present. They are to be planted into your soil.

They have a future. They are to bear fruit for the harvest.

May the miracle of life within these seeds burst forth yielding a bountiful harvest.

Bless the seeds and those who plant them.



Blessing of the soil

(Soil is scooped up and poured back)

God you have created and given us this soil

The soil serves as the medium for the seed to grow: it cleans water, it regulates climate. It provides warmth, nourishment and support so that new life may emerge.

Bless this soil that it may feed and nourish the seed.

Bless those who work this soil and harvest the produce.

Blessing of the water

(Water is poured into a cup and poured back)

God, this water is your creation

Water gives sustenance and nourishment to the soil and the seed.

Bless the soil and the seed with gentle rain.

Bless this water. Let it come as rain at the right time, in the proper amount so that the seed may flourish and grow.

In your mercy send us favourable weather so that the harvest will be bountiful.

The Rogation Litany

We take a moment to think about our village.

We thank you for those who first lived here,

Planned the fields, marked out the farms,
trod the roads and cleared the ditches.

We thank you for all of our predecessors who
have worshipped in our four churches and
brought the Good News of Jesus to their communities



Loving God we give you thanks for all that makes up this community.
We ask God's blessing on the church(es), on the spaces we cannot use just now
but long to return to.

We ask a blessing on all who are engaged in the essential tasks for this village,
and those volunteering, keep them safe.

The Lord hears our prayer;
Thanks be to God.

We ask God's blessing on all the farms around this
village and for all who work on them.
We give you thanks for the food that is produced
and the way that the land is cared for.
We remember those who are worried about buying
food, either because of poverty or because they
cannot go out.



The Lord hears our prayer;
Thanks be to God.

Dear God, you have given us animals to share with us
The burden and heat of the day; help us to show our
thanks to you, the giver of all life, by treating all
creatures with gentleness and kindness. Bless the
Cattle, sheep and horses - may he preserve them
From disease and keep them in good condition

The Lord hears our prayer
Thanks be to God

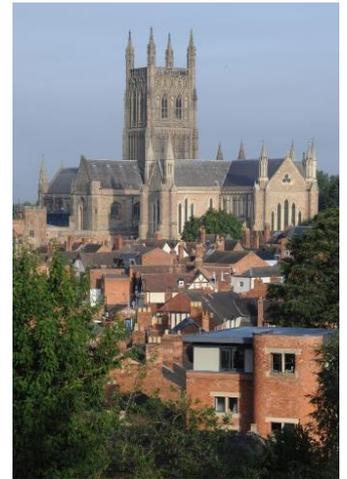


We pray for the labourers from near and far that
Are working in our meadows, fields and pastures.
May their labours be bountiful and may they keep safe
And take care.

The Lord hears our prayer
Thanks be to God

We pray for large urban communities at this time, for those having to isolate in cities devoid of green spaces. For those distant and lacking appreciation of the food cycle. We pray for those working in the NHS, care homes and as carers in the community, keep them safe and give them a sense of your peace.

The Lord hears our prayer;
Thanks be to God.



We remember those who live in countries where food is scarce and starvation real, where poverty means that children die young and adults work hard just to survive. We pray for them as they face this virus, may they be supported and may we work for justice. We pray for our friends in Tanzania where COVID is now striking and for the work of the MAF in getting help to isolated communities.

The Lord hears our prayer;
Thanks be to God.



Loving God accept these prayers through Jesus Christ your Son
and continue to work in us through us and if need be despite us so that your kingdom may come.

Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen



Blessing

May the Creator God continually inspire you (us) with the wonders of creation.
May Jesus, the Son, walk with you (us), especially through the dark times.
May the live giving Spirit bring us glimpses of the kingdom.
May God the three in one bless you (us) now and always. AMEN

Dismissal

For words that tell stories,

For Words that make us think,

For words that make us laugh.

Thank you God

Today, we have shared with God through prayer
and praise everything that is important to us.
Today we move on now to help those around us.
We go in peace to be kind and love and serve.
In Jesus's name we pray, Amen