

# QUEENSFERRY PARISH CHURCH

## MIDWEEK SERVICES

### SEPTEMBER

#### CREATION AND HARVEST

##### Week 1 – Celebrating Creation

**Leader:** You have searched me and known me, O God.  
You know when I sit down and when I rise up.

##### Opening Responses

The world around is full of beauty:

**WE PRAISE YOUR NAME, O GOD**

For the gift of life on earth

**WE PRAISE YOUR NAME, O GOD**

Open our eyes to see your artistry,

**YOUR IMAGE IN ALL THAT YOU HAVE MADE**

Where our praise is short or silent:

**ALL CREATION SINGS OUT WITH JOY**

Here we join creation's song:

**WE PRAISE YOUR NAME, O GOD.**

There are, of course, Psalms relating to creation and there is a whole section of hymns in CH4 entitled "God in Creation" from 136 – 156. You might choose to read one, perhaps one which we don't tend to sing.

**Read:** Psalm 8

**Prayer**

We sense your presence, O God, in the world around us,  
in the wonder and gift of this life.

You overwhelm our minds and hearts. The vastness of  
the universe makes us ponder our place and part in it.  
You delight our senses: the rainbow's playful light, the  
vibrant colour of flowers; the tang of the salt-sea air and  
the smell of freshly-baked bread;  
the sound of children laughing;  
the grip of a tiny baby.

All these things, and so many others, leave us lost for  
words.

Generous God you give us so much, but we are a people  
who lack wisdom despite our knowledge.

We have power but we fail to tread gently on your good  
earth.

We own many possessions but we crave for more.

Sometimes we are unable to find contentment;  
sometimes we slump into apathy; sometimes we lack  
hope and faith and grace.

Your love is faithful; your forgiveness limitless; your  
compassion endless – more than we deserve.

It leaves us lost for words but we are able to use your  
Son's words and we pray them now:

**OUR FATHER**

**Read:** Genesis 1 verses 1 – 19

**Reflection - on some aspect of God's wonderful creation.**

This should last for a **maximum of 5 – 7 minutes**. Please keep to the timescale.

This part of the service might involve music or poetry; it might involve the use of “props” or something else visual; it might involve silence.

**Prayer**

This a time for prayers for the world, for the communities in which we live; for the Church and in particular for tentative steps we are making to reopen our buildings; for those who are alone and who miss the regular rhythm of Church life; for those known to us to be in particular need of our prayers; for ourselves.

**CLOSING PRAYER**

**AS THE AIR SINGS WITH SONGS OF GLORY,  
AS THE WATER FLASHES WITH THE SILVER OF  
CREATION; AS THE FORESTS BLOOM WITH LEAVES FOR  
THE HEALING OF NATIONS,  
SO MAY GOD'S LIGHT AND LOVE FILL OUR HEARTS  
AND SOULS AND MINDS TODAY AND ALWAYS.  
AMEN**