



## 20 March Revd Canon Jane Brooke

# Lent2021

Bright yellow daffodils and pale green buds pointing out from thin branches welcome us to springtime. They are signs of hope after the effects of a pandemic. We look, we notice, we feel and our hearts begin to burst with praise at the "glorious splendour" all around. The diverse and complex world, of which we are stewards, invites our awe and an immediate response of praise to God whose "greatness is unsearchable".

Some years ago, I was at home looking after 3 children who were under the ages of four. Parenting takes up every second of the day in terms of changing babies, feeding, washing clothes, going for walks and ensuring there is peace whenever a dispute breaks out. Prayer takes place in snatched moments. Being a parent is a precious gift, yet, as any parent knows, it can be extremely tiring.

One day I was feeling at that point of exhaustion as I stood washing up dishes at the kitchen sink. Something made me lift my head to look through the window pane and there on the lawn were two young bluetits. They showed off their bright, contrasting, feathers of blue, yellow, green and black as they hopped around in the sunlight. It was momentary but it was an unforgettable gift. My heart sang with gratitude for such beautiful creatures and I praised the creator God. That nanosecond, arrow prayer of praise, was a blessing to me too. It left me revitalised and ready for anything!

Take some time to reflect on where you have seen God's 'wondrous works' in the past few days and praise God.

**Revd Canon Jane Brooke, Vice Dean of Chester Cathedral**

"A Song of Praise. Of David.  
I will extol you, my God and King, and  
bless your name forever and ever. Every  
day I will bless you and praise your  
name forever and ever. Great is the  
Lord, and greatly to be praised, and his  
greatness is unsearchable. One  
generation shall commend your works  
to another and shall declare your  
mighty acts. On the glorious splendour  
of your majesty, and on your wondrous  
works, I will meditate."

*Psalms 145:1-5*

## Information Point

Young people especially need the Church to step up and take their future seriously by caring for God's gift of creation. Speak is praying and campaigning for global justice and creating a network of young Christians.

<https://www.speak.org.uk/>

## A prayer

Loving God,

Help me to notice the world you have given to us with new eyes today so that my heart and my whole being bursts into praise at your mighty works.

Amen