

# Prayers for COP26



31 October

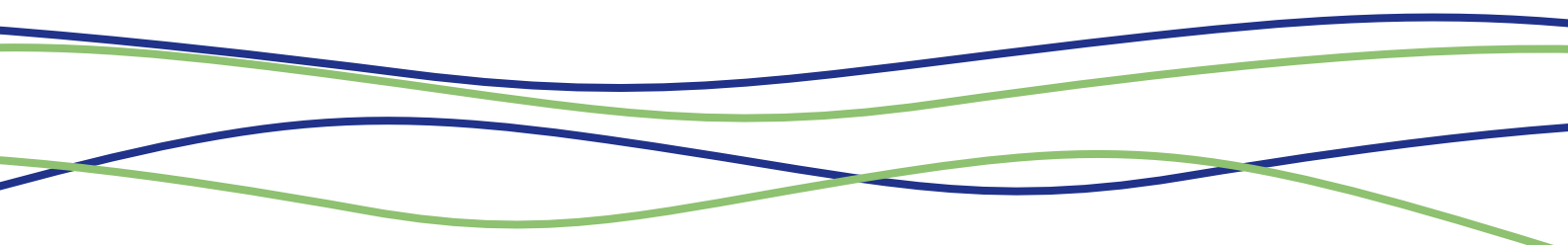
**At COP today:** Procedural opening of negotiations.

The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world and all who live in it.  
*Psalms 24:1*

The earth is the property of the God we claim to love and obey. We care for the earth, most simply, because it belongs to the one whom we call Lord.

Author of all marvels, we praise you.  
Creator of all things heavenly and earthly, we praise you.  
Your power and your wisdom are everywhere displayed.  
You have placed the night skies like a roof over our heads,  
and the solid and fruitful earth as the ground under our feet.  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit we thank and praise you!  
Amen.

*First English Poet, Caedmon 657-680A*



# Prayers for COP26



01 November

**At COP today:** World leaders summit. Welcoming world leaders to COP to put forward high level ambition and action towards securing global net zero and keeping 1.5 degrees in reach; adapting to protect communities and natural habitats; and mobilizing finance.

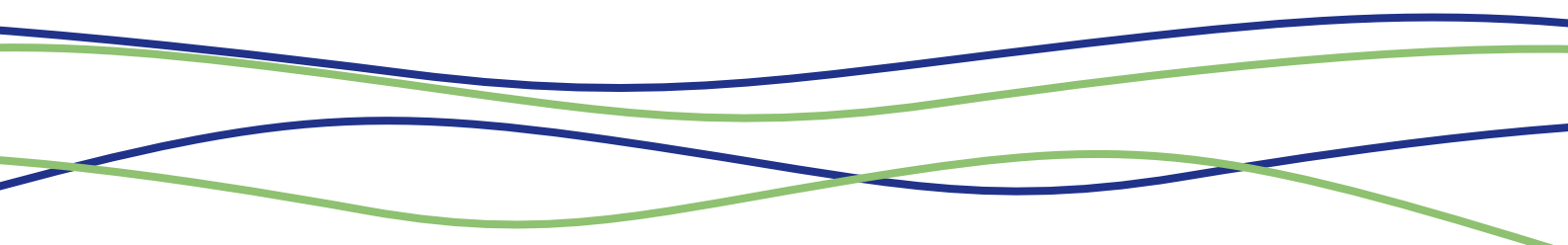
The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

*Colossians 1: 15 – 18*

The earth is created, sustained and redeemed by Christ. We care for the earth and responsibly use its abundant resources, not according to the rationale of the secular world, but for the Lord's sake.

Our God, God of all,  
God of heaven and earth, seas and rivers,  
God of sun and moon, of all the stars,  
God of high mountain and lowly valley,  
God over heaven, and in heaven, and under heaven.  
God who fills heaven and earth and sea and in all things that are in them.  
Who inspires all things, who gives life to all things.  
Who is over all things, who supports all things.  
Who makes the sun to shine,  
Who surrounds the moon and the stars,  
Who has made wells in the dry deserts,  
Placed dry islands in the sea.  
God the Father, God the Son  
And the Holy Spirit breath of God.  
Glory and praise be to you  
Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

*St Patrick 389-461AD*





# Prayers for COP26

02 November

**At COP today:** World leaders summit continues: seeking to endorse and enact the resolutions of the Paris accord, to persuade the many parties involved that efforts towards carbon neutrality are worthwhile because they are collective

The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.  
*Genesis 2:15*

Humanity is part of God's creation, but is also given a particular responsibility within it. This implies care, responsibility and interest in the welfare of others and in creation itself over the longer term. It implies responsibility far beyond self-interest.

Father, we pray for you to raise up a generation of leaders with the courage to take responsibility for our changing climate, and the part we have played in it. Father, we intercede for our politicians and leaders – cause them to act in the best interests of all nations today, and all peoples in the future, in order to avoid catastrophic changes. May they act justly so that those who have contributed so little to the problems we are facing, and have fewer resources with which to face it, are not left to shoulder our burden. We ask this in Jesus' name.  
Amen

# Prayers for COP26



03 November

**At COP today:** Finance mobilizing. Public and private finance flows at scale for mitigation and adaptation. The intention is that \$100bn per year should be given to poorer countries to help them as they transition to carbon neutrality.

We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

*Romans 8:22*

Human beings have placed self-interest ahead of the love of God and neighbour, and so ahead of the pressing needs of the poor and disadvantaged, and also of the needs of creation, and we continue to do so. The consequences of this are seen in the natural world.

Father, we ask for you to fill the hearts of all who live in rich nations and especially those who lead them. Give them your mercy and compassion on poor countries already suffering the effects of a changing climate. Just as they have been moved to cancel debt in the past, encourage them also to release funds so that poor communities can adapt to the effects of climate change, and develop cleanly.

Amen





# Prayers for COP26



04 November

**At COP today:** Energy. Accelerating the global transition to clean energy.

For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and throughout him to reconcile to himself all things whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

*Colossians 1: 19-20*

All things will be brought back into their right place with God, through the work of Jesus Christ. God's intentions involve more than just human beings!

Almighty God, creator, shaper and sustainer of all life,  
And loving Father.

We confess that we have not loved you with our whole hearts;  
We have been careless with the creation you so lovingly crafted,  
And deaf to its song of praise.

We have taken to satisfy our selfish desires, rather than our need  
And been indifferent to the consequences

As your world's song of praise has been silenced.

Because of our greed and carelessness, the world is hurting, and many of your most vulnerable children are suffering as a result.

Please forgive our indifference

For we ask in Jesus' name.

Amen



# Prayers for COP26



05 November

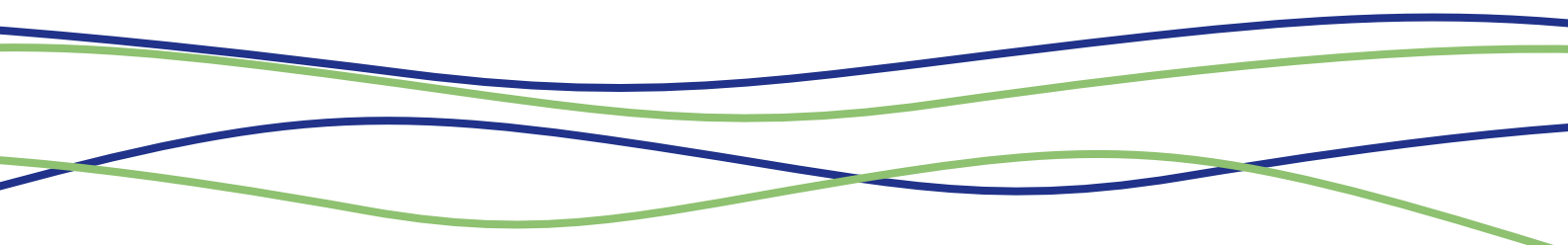
**At COP today:** Youth and Public Empowerment. Elevating the voice of young people and demonstrating the critical role of public empowerment and education in climate action.

'You turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead.'

*1 Thessalonians 9 - 10*

*Love for God and other people and concern for God's creation demands that we repent of our part in the waste, destruction and pollution of the earth's resources and our collusion in the idolatry of consumerism.*

Heavenly Father,  
You have taught us through your word  
That all creation is your handiwork.  
Grant us your grace that we may  
Exercise wise stewardship of this Earth;  
Tread lightly upon it;  
And cherish its resources;  
May young and old grow in understanding and grace,  
That our children may enjoy its riches, throughout all generations,  
And your name be glorified through all that you have made.  
Amen.



# Prayers for COP26



06 November

**At COP today:** Nature. Ensuring the importance of nature and sustainable land use are part of global action on climate change and a clean green recovery.

He makes grass grow for the cattle, and plants for people to cultivate – bringing forth food from the earth: wine that gladdens human hearts,  
oil to make their faces shine and bread that sustains their hearts.  
The trees of the Lord are well watered, the cedars of Lebanon that he planted. There the birds make their nests; the stork has its home in the junipers. The high mountains belong to the wild goats; the crags are a refuge for the hyrax.

*Psalm 104: 14 - 18*

Humanity and every other part of the created order is dependent on the goodness of God. We exist as part of a community of creation relying on him and existing to worship him.

O God,  
enlarge within us the sense of  
fellowship with all living things,  
our brothers and sisters  
the animals to whom you gave the earth  
as their home in common with us.  
We remember with shame that in the past  
we have exercised the high power of man  
with ruthless cruelty  
so that the voice of the earth,  
which should have gone up to thee in song,  
has been a groan of pain.  
May we realise that they live not for  
us alone but for You  
and that they love the sweetness of life.

*St. Basil the Great 330-379AD*



# Prayers for COP26



07 November

**At COP today:** Rest day ahead of the second week of negotiations.

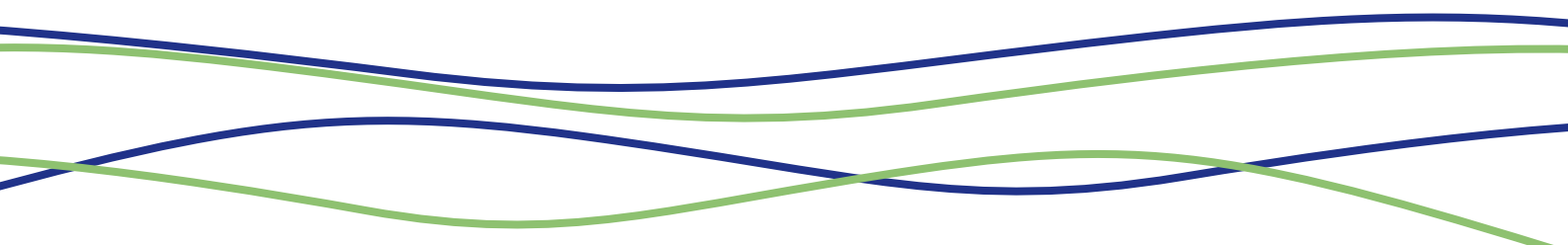
Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

*Romans 5: 3 – 5*

Christians understand hope to be justified not because of human ingenuity or determination, but because of the love of God, who has who has demonstrated his love in Jesus Christ and manifested it by the giving of the Holy Spirit.

Almighty God,  
you have made us for yourself,  
and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you:  
pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself,  
and so bring us at last to your heavenly city  
where we shall see you face to face;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

*Common Worship, Collect for 17th Sunday after Trinity*





# Prayers for COP26



08 November

**At COP today:** Adaptation, loss and damage. Delivering the practical solutions needed to adapt to climate impacts and address financial loss and other damage. These issues will continue to be addressed and are likely to be the main focus of COP27 in Egypt.

But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. 1

Timothy 6: 6-9

We look for meaning and status in the things that we have or consume. Paul tells us that this restless search is futile and destructive. Trusting Jesus Christ we can find contentment and live in ways that cause less damage to our planet and to other people.

Oh Lord God you are our shepherd and have provided us every spiritual blessing in Christ, and with everything we need for life and godliness.  
Protect us from coveting possessions or people,  
talent or influence, relationships or prestige.  
Keep our hearts from being anxious for what we do not have  
and make us thankful for the numerous gifts that You have already given.  
May we live with greater simplicity and contentment, as we walk to road that Jesus walked before us.  
Amen

# Prayers for COP26



09 November

**At COP today:** Gender. Progressing gender equality and meaningful participation of women and girls in climate action. Science and Innovation. Demonstrating that science and innovation can deliver climate solutions to meet, and accelerate, increased ambition.

The Lord is exalted over all the nations, his glory above the heavens. Who is like the Lord our God, the One who sits enthroned on high, who stoops down to look on the heavens and the earth? He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap; seats them with princes, with the princes of his people. He settles the childless woman in her home as a happy mother of children. Praise the Lord. Psalm 113:

God is exalted and glorious yet he looks on the vulnerable with compassion. Environmental difficulties disproportionately affect those with few resources – the vulnerable that the Psalmist talks about.

Creator God – creator of all humanity, of people everywhere. You have made us in your image, and all bear your likeness. In your wisdom and power may all people, women and men, girls and boys, be empowered to serve you, other people, and the world in which we live. May those who are currently excluded or limited be liberated to live full and creative lives.

Creator God - creator of our world, of science, and of creativity itself  
You hold all knowledge.

We praise you and thank you for the insights you have given people into engineering , science and systems in the past.

In your mercy, grant revelation to scientists and engineers that they might discover solutions and systems to aid adaptation.

Not that we might continue to take the earth and its resources for granted, or grow arrogant, but that your precious children might be spared.

Through Jesus Christ we pray.

Amen



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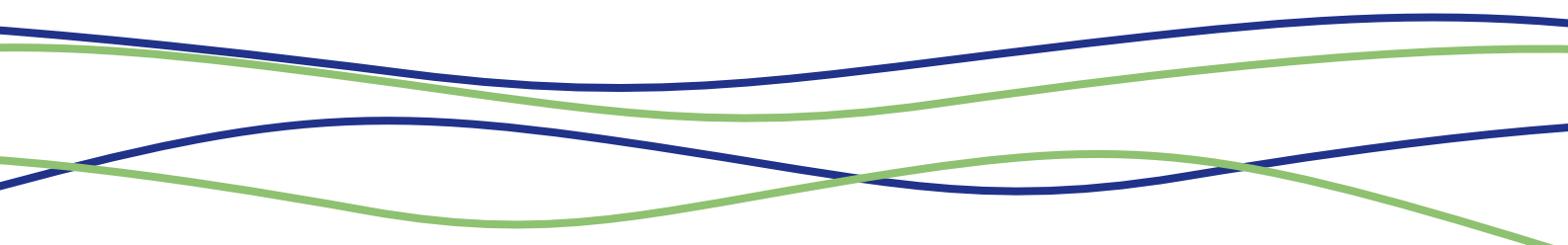
10 November

**At COP today:** Transport. Driving the global transition to zero emission transport.

Now I say this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows generously will also reap generously.  
2 Corinthians 9:6

Right living, living as Jesus lived, is marked by generosity, in response to and confident of the generosity that God shows to us. It is often a lack of confidence in God that holds us back from changing our lives for the good of others.

Father of creation, we thank you for all that you have made; For the joy and glimpses of you we find in nature's beauty, For the variety of all you have provided through its resources. Help us to tread lightly and use wisely, Valuing the needs of others, and of creation, above our own desires. Challenge us where we need to change our lifestyles, Convict us when we need to speak out on behalf of a voiceless people, or world And soften us where we have stood in judgement of others. Father in your mercy, change us and use us For the restoration of your world, and the protection of all people.  
Amen



# Prayers for COP26



11 November

**At COP today:** Cities, regions and the built environment. Advancing action in the places we live, from communities, through to cities and regions.

Let us not become weary of doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.  
*Galatians 6:9*

We are encouraged to take up the cause of the environment not because it is popular or because it commends us to others, but because it is good to do so. And because it is good we are to persevere in it, not just when the attention of the world is on Glasgow and not just in large and visible ways, but enduringly and in our daily lives.

Eternal God,  
whose Spirit moved over the face of the deep bringing forth light and life;  
by that same Spirit, renew your creation, and restore your image in your people.  
Turn us from careless tenants to faithful stewards,  
that your threefold blessing of clean air, pure water and rich earth  
may be the inheritance of everything that has the breath of life  
and one generation may proclaim to another the wonder of your works;  
through Jesus Christ, your living Word,  
in whom the fullness of your glory is revealed.  
Amen.

*Rt Revd Libby Lane, Bishop of Derby*





# Prayers for COP26



11 November

**At COP today:** Closure of negotiations.

See, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind. But be glad and rejoice for ever in what I will create, for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy. They will build houses and dwell in them; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit. Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear.

The wolf and the lamb will feed together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox, and dust will be the serpent's food. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain,' says the Lord.

Isaiah 65: 17-18,21,24-25

Ahead lies a renewed created order, where our relationships with one another and with God and with the rest of creation flourish, free from conflict.

Everlasting God

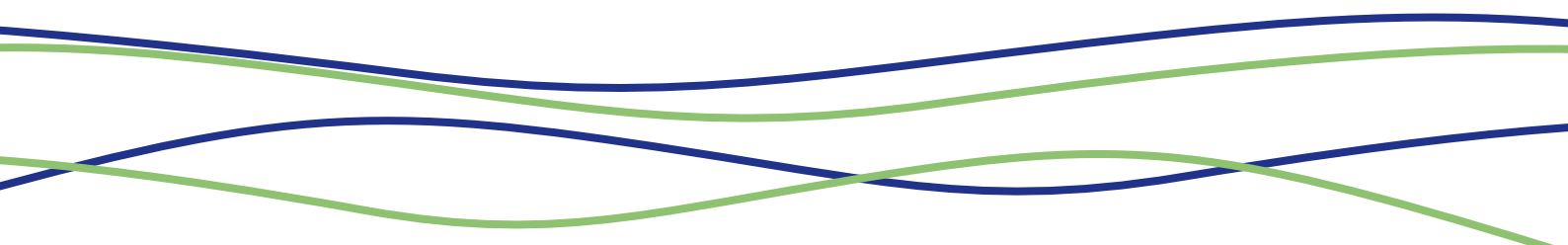
whose Spirit broods everlastingly over the lands and the waters,  
and endows them with form and colour:

give us, we pray, the mind and heart  
to rejoice in the majesty of creation.

Teach us to be responsible stewards of this world  
and to seek the common good,  
that through your blessing all may flourish,  
and creation sing your praise  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

*Revd Robert Atwell, Bishop of Exeter*



# Wisdom to Care for the Earth

Lord, grant us the wisdom to care for the earth and till it.  
Help us to act now for the good of future generations and all your creatures.  
Help us to become instruments of a new creation,  
Founded on the covenant of your love.  
Amen

## Intercessions for the climate and environment

We pray for the Church: that she may be a beacon of hope throughout the world, reminding us all of our responsibility to care for and protect God's precious gift of creation.

Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for the world, our common home: that through God's grace we may hear its cry of the damage done and be moved to protect it for future generations to enjoy.

Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for those people who are already facing droughts, floods and storms: that God may grant them strength and hope for the future as they work to adapt to the changing climate.

Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for our parish and our local community: that through the grace of God we may hear the urgent cry of the earth and of the poor and be inspired to respond at this crucial time.

Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for the world we live in: that God may open our eyes to recognise the goodness of all creation and help us to do what we can to restore and care for the wonderful gift that we have been given.

Lord, in your mercy...

We pray for world leaders: that God may grant them wisdom to make just decisions which respect the earth and all that lives in it, especially those who are poorest and most vulnerable.

Lord, in your mercy...

