

# Creationtide 3

Sep 20<sup>th</sup> 2020

Led by Fiona Bennett & Mike Holroyd

With music by Karl Macrae

## Welcome & Gathering

### Call to worship

Today,  
The Source of life beckons us.  
The Guide of abundant living steers us.  
The Spirit of creative living shapes us.  
Beckoning, steering, shaping,  
Holy Three in One,  
We gather to worship you.

### Hymn: Give thanks with a grateful heart CH4 180

*Give thanks with a grateful heart,  
give thanks to the Holy One,  
give thanks because he's given  
Jesus Christ, his Son. X 2*

And now let the weak say, 'I am strong!'  
Let the poor say, 'I am rich  
because of what the Lord has done for us!' X2  
*Henry Smith (b. 1952)*

### Opening Prayer

ALL: In deepest space (arms up)  
In the core of the earth (arms down)  
In my heart (hands at heart)  
The God of Love is alive

### Time for all ages: Scots Pine

### Song: You shall go out with joy CH4 804

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace,  
and the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you.  
There'll be shouts of joy, and the trees of the field  
shall clap, shall clap their hands,  
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,  
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,  
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,  
and you'll go out with joy.

*Stuart Dauermann (b. 1944)*

### Readings: Jonah 3:10-4:11 (the Message) read by Tyler McNeill

10 God saw what they had done, that they had turned away from their evil lives. He did change his mind about them. What he said he would do to them he didn't do.  
"I Knew This Was Going to Happen!"

4 1-2 Jonah was furious. He lost his temper. He yelled at God, "God! I knew it—when I was back home, I knew this was going to happen! That's why I ran off to Tarshish! I knew you were sheer grace and mercy, not easily angered, rich in love, and ready at the drop of a hat to turn your plans of punishment into a program of forgiveness!

3 "So, God, if you won't kill them, kill me! I'm better off dead!"

4 God said, "What do you have to be angry about?"

5 But Jonah just left. He went out of the city to the east and sat down in a sulk. He put together a makeshift shelter of leafy branches and sat there in the shade to see what would happen to the city.

6 God arranged for a broad-leafed tree to spring up. It grew over Jonah to cool him off and get him out of his angry sulk. Jonah was pleased and enjoyed the shade. Life was looking up.

7-8 But then God sent a worm. By dawn of the next day, the worm had bored into the shade tree and it withered away. The sun came up and God sent a hot, blistering wind from the east. The sun beat down on Jonah's head and he started to faint. He prayed to die: "I'm better off dead!"

9 Then God said to Jonah, "What right do you have to get angry about this shade tree?" Jonah said, "Plenty of right. It's made me angry enough to die!"

10-11 God said, "What's this? How is it that you can change your feelings from pleasure to anger overnight about a mere shade tree that you did nothing to get? You neither planted nor watered it. It grew up one night and died the next night. So, why can't I likewise change what I feel about Nineveh from anger to pleasure, this big city of more than 120,000 childlike people who don't yet know right from wrong, to say nothing of all the innocent animals?"

### **Reflection: Mike Holroyd**

### **Meditation: Lost words blessing**

### **Offering & Dedication**

### **Communion**

#### **Song: Come to the table of grace**

Come to the table of grace  
Come to the table of grace  
This God's table it's not yours or mine  
Come to table of grace.

#### **Song: This is the body of Christ CH4 799**

This is the body of Christ  
Broken that we might be whole.  
This cup as promised by God,  
True to God's Word,  
Cradles our Lord  
Food the good of us all.

#### **Song: God Bless to us our bread CH4 763**

God bless to us our bread;  
And give bread to all those who are hungry,  
And hunger for justice to all who are fed.

God bless to us our bread.

*Closing Response*

Presider: Together we are nourished by Jesus' life.

ALL: We go to share his life and love.

**Hymn: God in such love for us CH4 240 (tune CH4 621: Mark of nails)**

God in such love for us lent us this planet,  
gave it a purpose in time and in space:  
small as a spark from the fire of creation,  
cradle of life and the home of our race.

Thanks be to God for its bounty and beauty,  
life that sustains us in body and mind:  
plenty for all, if we learn how to share it,  
riches undreamed-of to fathom and find.

Long have our human wars ruined its harvest;  
long has earth bowed to the terror of force;  
long have we wasted what others have need of,  
poisoned the fountain of life at its source.

Earth is the Lord's: it is ours to enjoy it,  
ours, as God's stewards, to farm and defend.  
From its pollution, misuse, and destruction,  
good Lord, deliver us, world without end!

*Frederick Pratt Green (1903–2000)*

**Notices**

**Blessing & Sung Amen**