HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Holy Trinity Geneva

THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY CW Eucharist and Spiritual Communion DESOLATION

21st September 2025 at 10h30



Garden of Peace

Introduction to the Season of Creation 2025

The Symbol for 2025 is the Garden of Peace. The symbol is characterized by a dove carrying an olive branch bringing life to the Garden of Peace.

In the Biblical story of the flood, the dove plays the role of the blessed messenger: The dove sent out by Noah returns to the ark with a fresh olive branch in its beak, signalling that the flood is receding.

As the flood story begins with a situation where "the earth is filled with violence" (Genesis 6:13), the return of the dove with the olive branch came to be known as a sign of new peace.

During the Season of Creationtide this year, we will be using the Church of England's environmental resource 'A Time for Creation'. Under the overall theme of 'Climate Emergency', we will be exploring over the four Sundays in September, the topics of Wonder, Abundance, Desolation and Restoration within the overall context of our understanding of Creation as a gift. Our Bible readings during this season reflect on the wonder and abundance of creation, the damage we wreak upon it and our desire and hope for healing.

The mass setting is by L'Estrange - St Helen's Service.

We welcome Blair Matheson of Franciscans International who will be giving the Address at our 9h00 and 10h30 services today.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

HON 198

We stand

1 For the healing of the nations, Lord, we pray with one accord; For a just and equal sharing Of the things that earth affords. To a life of love in action Help us rise and pledge our word.

2 Lead us, Father, into freedom,
From despair the world release;
That, redeemed from war and hatred,
Men may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness
Fear will die and hope increase.

3 All that kills abundant living, Let it from the earth be banned; Pride of status, race or schooling, Dogmas keeping man from man. In our common quest for justice May we hallow life's brief span.

4 You Creator-God have written Your great Name on all mankind; For our growing in Your likeness Bring the life of Christ to mind; That, by our response and service Earth its destiny may find.

Alleluia Dulce Carmen F Kaan (1929-2009) 'Essay on the Church Plain Chant' (1782)

THE GATHERING & WELCOME

For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God...in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

Romans 8:19-21

The Lord be with you and also with you.

Come, let us worship God, who gifted us with life and Creation to sustain life. We praise God for the wondrous Creation.

Come, let us follow Lord Jesus Christ, who inspires us to hope and act for justice and righteousness.

We give glory to God, who restores the groaning Creation and the vulnerable.

Come let us move with the Holy Spirit, striving to establish justice and produce the first fruits of hope.

We praise God for the abundant life that is assured to all Creation.

World Council of Churches, Eco-School at the Orthodox Academy of Crete, Greece, 11-18 November 2023

Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

We sit or kneel
Our Lord Jesus Christ said:
The first commandment is this:
'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength'.

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself'.

There is no other commandment greater than these,

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Amen, Lord have mercy.

Invitation

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

Kyrie Eleison Confession

Eternal God, the whole world is full of your glory. We bear forth the anguish of Creation in the time of the climate crisis to you. In your grace, grant us the opportunity to do good, as your created co-creators.

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy.

Jesus Christ, you have walked the Earth and lived in our midst. Make us sensitive to the suffering of humankind and the entire creation. Strengthen us in our endeavours to create a life of dignity, in justice, and solidarity with those who live and will live.

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy.

Holy Spirit, power of courage and self-control, you speak to our consciences. Comfort us when we suffer and are plagued by anxiety. Make us worry when we are numb in the calmness of complacency. Re-create us to become what we are: one humanity under the same sky.

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy.

Adapted from "Prayer for the Climate", from the "Bishops' Letter for the Climate", of the Church of Sweden

Absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GLORIA

We stand

Gloria (Glory to God)





COLLECT

Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; 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. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

We sit

First Lesson Isaiah 5.1-10

5Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ²He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. ³And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? ⁵And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. ⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

⁸Ah, you who join house to house, who add field to field, until there is room for no one but you, and you are left to live alone in the midst of the land! ⁹The LORD of hosts has sworn in my hearing: Surely many houses shall be desolate, large and beautiful houses, without inhabitant. ¹⁰For ten acres of vineyard shall yield but one bath, and a homer of seed shall yield a mere ephah.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 102.1-12, 24-end

We stand

- 1 O Lord, hear my prayer and let my crying come before you.
- 2 Hide not your face from me in the day of my distress.

- 3 Incline your ear to me;
 when I call, make haste to answer me,
- 4 For my days are consumed in smoke and my bones burn away as in a furnace.
- 5 My heart is smitten down and withered like grass, so that I forget to eat my bread.
- 6 From the sound of my groaning my bones cleave fast to my skin.
- 7 I am become like a vulture in the wilderness, like an owl that haunts the ruins.
- 8 I keep watch and am become like a sparrow solitary upon the housetop.
- 9 My enemies revile me all the day long, and those who rage at me have sworn together against me.
- 10 I have eaten ashes for bread and mingled my drink with weeping,
- 11 Because of your indignation and wrath, for you have taken me up and cast me down.
- 12 My days fade away like a shadow, and I am withered like grass.
- 24 He has brought down my strength in my journey and has shortened my days.
- 25 I pray, 'O my God, do not take me in the midst of my days; your years endure throughout all generations.
- 26 'In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands;
- 27 'They shall perish, but you will endure; they all shall wear out like a garment.
- 28 'You change them like clothing, and they shall be changed; but you are the same, and your years will not fail.
- 29 'The children of your servants shall continue, and their descendants shall be established in your sight.'

Epistle Revelation 6.12-17

We sit

¹²When he opened the sixth seal, I looked, and there came a great earthquake; the sun became black as sackcloth, the full moon became like blood, ¹³ and the stars of the sky fell to the earth as the fig tree drops its winter fruit when shaken by a gale. ¹⁴The sky vanished like a scroll rolling itself up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place. ¹⁵Then the kings of the earth and the magnates and the generals and the rich and the powerful, and everyone, slave

and free, hid in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains, ¹⁶calling to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of the one seated on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb; ¹⁷for the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

We stand

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark Glory to you, O Lord.

Mark 11,12-20

¹²On the following day, when they came from Bethany, he was hungry. ¹³Seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to see whether perhaps he would find anything on it. When he came to it, he found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. ¹⁴He said to it, "May no one ever eat fruit from you again." And his disciples heard it.

¹⁵Then they came to Jerusalem. And he entered the temple and began to drive out those who were selling and those who were buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves; ¹⁶and he would not allow anyone to carry anything through the temple. ¹⁷He was teaching and saying, "Is it not written,

'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations'? But you have made it a den of robbers."

¹⁸And when the chief priests and the scribes heard it, they kept looking for a way to kill him; for they were afraid of him, because the whole crowd was spellbound by his teaching. ¹⁹And when evening came, Jesus and his disciples went out of the city.

²⁰In the morning as they passed by, they saw the fig tree withered away to its roots.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

ADDRESS - Blair Matheson, Franciscans International We sit

Affirmation of Faith

We stand

We have faith

in one God, one Source of all life,

one Ground of the whole Earth,

who created all things good.

And we have faith in Christ,

in whom we have been shown the special role of humanity

to bear God's likeness

in working and caring for Creation,

in seeking to understand her mysteries and powers,

in working with these powers

for the wellbeing of life on Earth.

And we have faith

in God's Spirit who leads us to a meek, unselfish and compassionate lifestyle.

So that the Earth is inherited in peace,

her life is transformed for all creatures

and her bounty shared justly.

So be it. Amen.

(Adapted From India. Source: Sinfonia Oecumenica, Gütersloher Verlagshaus, Gütersloh 1998. Reproduced by ECEN for Creation Time 2003)

Prayers of Intercession

We sit or kneel

At the start, middle and end of our prayers the Choir will sing an anthem by Gibbons 'Drop, drop slow tears' (NEH 82)

Choir:

Drop, drop, slow tears, And bathe those beauteous feet, Which brought from heaven The news and Prince of peace.

Prayers of Intercession

Response - Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer

Choir:

Cease not, wet eyes, His mercies to entreat; To cry for vengeance Sin doth never cease. Prayers of Intercession
Response - Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer

Choir:

In your deep floods Drown all my faults and fears; Nor let his eye See sin, but through my tears.

Song 46 O Gibbons (1583-1625) P Fletcher (1582-1650)

We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray, to the mercy and protection of God.

Merciful Father,

accept these prayers

for the sake of your Son,

our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Peace and the Offertory

We stand

In Christ, we are called not to conform to this world, but to be transformed by the renewing of our minds.

We seek to discern the will of God, to do what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Let us not lag in zeal but be ardent in spirit and serve God.

We intend to live in harmony with one another and with all of Creation.

Let us strive to live peaceably with all and share a sign of peace with one another. The peace of God be with you.

And also with you. Amen.

We offer one another a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn HON 382

A collection of money will be taken during the singing of the hymn. For those wishing to make a payment electronically, you can either use a debit or credit card (all major cards accepted) on one of the handheld terminals which the sidespeople have available, or after the service use the machine at the back of church. Alternatively, please refer to page 19 for QR codes and instructions.

Please note that none of these options allow us to record your personal details for subsequently producing a tax certificate. If you need a certificate at the end of the year, please ensure you make a payment to the church's bank account (information on page 19), specifying your name.

HON 382

1 Jesus Christ is waiting, waiting in the streets; no-one is his neighbour, all alone he eats.
Listen, Lord Jesus,
I am lonely too.
Make me, friend or stranger, fit to wait on you.

2 Jesus Christ is raging, raging in the streets, where injustice spirals and real hope retreats. Listen, Lord Jesus, I am angry too. In the Kingdom's causes let me rage with you.

3 Jesus Christ is healing, healing in the streets; curing those who suffer, touching those he greets. Listen, Lord Jesus, I have pity too. Let my care be active, healing just like you.

4 Jesus Christ is dancing, dancing in the streets
Curing those who suffer, touching those he greets.
Listen, Lord Jesus,
I should triumph too;
Where good conquers evil, let me dance with you.

5 Jesus Christ is calling, calling in the streets,

`Who will join my journey?

I will guide their feet.'

Listen, Lord Jesus,

let my fears be few.

Walk one step before me;

I will follow you.

Noel Nouvelet Traditional French melody, aa J Rombaut JL Bell (b 1949) & G Maule (b 1958)

THE PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR

Blessed be God, by whose grace creation is renewed, by whose love heaven is opened, by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise. **Amen**.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

We remain standing
The Lord be with you
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts
We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God It is right to give thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, Lord God, our light and our salvation, to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the beginning you have created all things and all your works echo the silent music of your praise. In the fullness of time you made us in your image, the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels and all the powers of heaven we may find a voice to sing your praise:

Sanctus & Benedictus



How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord. As a mother tenderly gathers her children, you embraced a people as your own. When they turned away and rebelled your love remained steadfast.

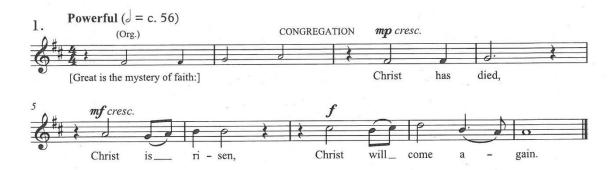
From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary, to be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied.

He offered his life for sinners, and with a love stronger than death he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died, he came to supper with his friends and, taking bread, he gave you thanks. He broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said:

Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.



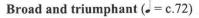
Father, we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross; we remember his dying and rising in glory, and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you these gifts of your creation; may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence, form us in the likeness of Christ, and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Remember, Lord, your Church in every land. Reveal her unity, guard her faith, and preserve her in peace.

Bring us at the last with all the saints to the vision of that eternal splendour for which you have created us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, by whom, with whom, and in whom, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:





The Lord's Prayer

We sit or kneel

Gathering our prayers and praise into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us:

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,

Source of all that is and that shall be.

Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe!

Let the way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your beloved community of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever.

Amen.

Adapted from The New Zealand Book of Prayer | He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa.

This version of the Lord's prayer was influenced by Maori theologians.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body because we all share in the one bread.

Agnus Dei



GIVING OF COMMUNION

We invite you to come and to receive Communion, receiving the host from the priest and, if you wish, the wine from the chalice bearer. Please consume the host before you receive the wine and do not dip it in the chalice. If you would like to receive a blessing, please come forward and cross your arms. If you are accustomed to receiving Communion in any church, you are welcome to do so with us today.

Draw near with faith. Receive the Body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you and his Blood which he shed for you. Remember that he died for you and feed on him in your heart with thanksgiving.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION (for those online)

Let us now prepare ourselves to make our spiritual communion.

Prayer for an Act of Spiritual Communion

We offer and present to you, Lord our heavenly Father, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a holy and living sacrifice; grant that being present together in heart and mind at this holy communion we may now be filled with your heavenly blessing through the redeeming grace of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ... [short pause]

Lord Jesus Christ, in outward signs of bread and wine you have made known your presence among us; as we unite with one another from the places where we are, may your communion be fulfilled in us now through the work of the life-giving Holy Spirit. Amen.

Anthem: Greene - Lord, let me know mine end

Lord, let me know mine end, and the number of my days,

that I may be certified how long I have to live.

Behold, thou hast made my days as it were a span long,

and mine age is even as nothing in respect of thee;

And verily every man living is altogether vanity.

For man walketh in a vain shadow, and disquieteth himself in vain;

he heapeth up riches, and cannot tell who shall gather them.

And now, Lord, what is my hope? truly my hope is even in thee.

Hear my prayer, 0 Lord, and with thine ears consider my calling;

hold not thy peace at my tears.

O spare me a little, that I may recover my strength, before I go hence, and be no more seen.

Psalm 39 M Greene (1695-1755)

THE CONCLUSION

Post Communion Prayers

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice.

Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

Notices

If you have not already done so, please **sign-up** to the bi-weekly congregational emails which contain all the info you need on services, church news and events. Please go to the bottom of the website homepage (www.holytrinitygeneva.org) and sign up! If you have signed up and don't see the emails, please check your Spam/Junk folder before contacting communications@holytrinitygeneva.org
You can also find information on services, church news and events on the website.

HYMN NEH 439 omit v3.4

We stand

1 PRAISE to the Holiest in the height, And in the depth be praise, In all his words most wonderful, Most sure in all his ways.

2 O loving wisdom of our God! When all was sin and shame, A second Adam to the fight And to the rescue came. 5 O generous love! that he who smote In Man for man the foe, The double agony in Man For man should undergo;

6 And in the garden secretly, And on the cross on high, Should teach his brethren, and inspire To suffer and to die.

7 Praise to the Holiest in the height, And in the depth be praise, In all his words most wonderful, Most sure in all his ways.

Gerontius JB Dykes (1823-1876) JH Newman (1801-1890)

Blessing

May God who can set Creation free, show us his glory.

Glory to God.

May God who knows our groaning and crying, bring about new life.

Now and always.

May God who helps us in our weakness, give us the first fruits of hope.

The Lord is our hope.

And may the Triune God sprinkle into our hearts the dew of his grace and bless us all. **Amen**.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ, Amen.

Music after the service

Prayer Requests

We pray for the sick who are known to us, and those caring for them, especially for Mark Faber, Christopher Creffield, Canon Ken David, Chris Jayesingha, Lynda Ammann, Beat Ammann, Ann Elter, Diane D'Arcis, Jean Mayer, Beverley Vasiljevic, Mary Brice, Jann Coppen, Jonathan Bezzola, Sybil Sheppard, Chris Talbot, Joan Tye, Annemarie Hester, André Vivas, Timothy Creffield, Edith Tanner, Livia Varju, Brenda Hand, Valerie Offord, Phil Thomas, Diana Mason, Robin Bailey, Judi Cianci, Ruth Wyler, Germain, Joyce McNulty, Trevor Thomas, Diana Dickinson, Denise Muhlethaler, Maya Mortimer, Silvio Morson, Anna Porraccin, Valerie Slessor, Frances Boo, Jenny Syratchev, Lorensz Ranasinghe.

Among the faithful departed we pray at this time for Mervyn Puleston. May he rest in peace and rise in glory with the saints.

GIVING AT HOLY TRINITY

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14bis rue du Mont Blanc - 1201 Geneva





Saturday 27 September at 18h

Music chosen by her family including: Britten, Pierre de la Rue, Sweelinck, Matthews & Sumsion AND Madrigals plus works arranged by Lindy for Holy Trinity's Junior Choir

Free entry with retiring collection in aid of music at Holy Trinity

Holy Trinity Church - 14bis rue du Mont Blan, 1201 Genevac

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