

# Saturday Prayer Office, Season of Creation 2020

adapted from Emmaus SofC Prayer Office 2019

Welcome to the weekend and its call to rest, recreate, restore and reconcile ourselves to God, to the creation, to others; and ourselves to ourselves

(Saint Day optional)

Bell X 3

God saw all that had been made, and it was very good. Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array. And on the seventh day God ended the work which God had made; and God rested on the seventh day. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because in it God had rested from all the work which God created and made.

Blessing and rest, delight in everything  
Sustained by your strong love and richly blest,  
This is the gift you give, the day you bring  
Blessing and rest.  
This is indeed the 'gladness of the best',  
From first lines in the east where linnets sing,  
To where the last light lingers in the west,  
You lift the cares to which I used to cling,  
As you yourself descend to be my guest  
And show me how to find in everything  
Blessing and rest.

Bell x3

*Children of the Living God,  
What is our God's greatest desire  
For ourselves this day?*

**That we should rest in the love of our eternal King  
With all our hearts,  
With all our souls,  
With all our minds,  
With all our strength.**

*And how would we show this love imbued rest?*

**By cultivating thankfulness for God's many blessings, and trusting God's provision for the meeting of our needs even as we lay aside our labour, our worries, stresses and fears.**

**By learning to love all whose lives intersect our own; to find joy in them and they in us. To be instruments of peace and refreshment.**

**By taking time to atune to the life that is larger than ours, to commune with creation through which God is revealed.**

**By delighting in the moment and letting go what was, and what is to come, knowing that all is held in the fullness of the Alpha and the Omega .**

*O children of the Living God, casting our cares  
Upon God's strong shoulders,  
Let us now surrender our own agendas for this day,  
And instead be led by the working of the Spirit.*

**Open our eyes and our hearts, O Lord,  
To your words and truth.**

Psalm of the day read aloud or chanted.

Gospel reading

**Art for Meditation.** *Which will remain up for the Silence.*

Silence – bell x 1

A time of sharing thoughts that surfaced related to the art meditation, gospel reading and psalm.

**Prayer** – after short discussion, a time of open prayer to pray deeper into the gospel readings, for others in the community, the world, and ourselves.

*Let us now bring before our Gracious God any petitions relevant to this day. (Open time of prayer)*

**O Lord, hear our prayers.**

As we gather them all into the prayer our Lord Jesus taught us:

**The Lord's Prayer.**

*Now we who are beloved of God, Let us Step forward into this new day  
Appointed by God, that we might Journey through its hours In the peace ,  
grace, rest and love of our Lord. Having received in our hearts the light of  
life that shines and gives hope to the world.*

**Lead us this day, Lord Christ,  
That we might walk its paths  
In the light of the hope  
of the redemption and restoration  
of ourselves and all of creation.  
Amen.**

Bell x 3