



# ANIMAL WELFARE PATTERNS FOR WORSHIP

Rev. Hugh Broadbent

## INTRODUCTION:

When Christians worship together the liturgy they use should enhance their experience of awe and wonder drawing them closer to one another and to God. Beautiful and thoughtful liturgies can lift our hearts and minds to God who is the creator of all things.

This booklet contains prayers and liturgies that have been ably compiled or written by the Revd Hugh Broadbent and have been used in various settings and found to be valuable aids to worship. The balance of penitence, thanksgiving and commitment reminds us that we are stewards of God's creation called to care for others, for animals and for our environment. This updated booklet is a valuable resource and can be used both in private prayer and especially when planning animal welfare services. I am happy to commend it.

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## A: GATHERING AND GREETING

**A1 General** Dear friends,  
we have come together in the name of Jesus  
and in the fellowship of St. Francis and all the saints,  
to worship the King of Creation,  
to hear his saving Word,  
and to dedicate ourselves  
to his gospel of salvation which is for all creatures.  
**By his grace we live;  
by his grace we are saved;  
by his grace we are called to his service.**

**A2 General** How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord Almighty!  
**Our hearts cry out for you, the living God.**  
Even the sparrow has found a home,  
**and the swallow a nest, where she may lay her young**  
Sing to the Lord a new song,  
**for he has made his salvation known.**

*From Psalms 84 and 98*

**A3 Creation** “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth  
He saw all that he had made, and it was very good.”

*Genesis 1:1,31*

Let the heavens rejoice,  
**let the earth be glad.**  
They will sing before the Lord,  
**for he comes, he comes to judge the earth.**  
Let us sing to the Lord a new song  
**and proclaim his salvation!**

*From Psalm 96*

Blessed be God, the Father of all.  
In his infinite power and love,  
he has brought this universe into being.  
He has formed the galaxies, stars and planets;  
he has breathed his life, beauty and goodness  
into countless creatures;  
and he has bestowed upon us, who are made in  
his image,

the privilege of sharing in his gracious rule.  
Let us join in Creation's endless praise  
celebrating the wonders of God's work:  
**Holy, holy, holy  
is the Lord God almighty,  
who was, and is, and is to come.**

### A4 Creation / Covenant with Noah

The heavens praise your wonders, O Lord,  
**you rule over the surging sea.**  
Peace and justice are the foundation of your throne;  
**Love and faithfulness go before you.**

*cf Psalm 89:5,9,14*

We worship God, the creator and sustainer of all.  
From the beginning, his Spirit has moved  
over the primeval waters of chaos,  
to establish his order, to pursue his purpose,  
to bring forth light from darkness  
and to nurture life in all its amazing beauty and diversity.

From the beginning his love and mercy  
have been over all his works,  
the flocks and the herds, and the beasts of the field,  
the birds of the air and the fish of the sea.  
Not a sparrow falls to the ground without his knowledge.

As human beings we are created in the image of God.  
We have the privilege and responsibility  
of sharing in his gracious rule:  
of striving to promote the well-being of every creature,  
and of opposing those who cause needless suffering.  
Let us pray for God's strength  
that we may be worthy of our calling.

The seas have lifted up their voice, O Lord,  
**the seas have lifted up their voice;**  
Mightier than the thunder of the great waters,  
**the Lord on high is mighty.**

*Psalm 93:3,4*

## A5 Holy Week

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

**Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!**

He will bring justice to the poor of the earth.

**Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!**

They will neither harm nor destroy on all his holy mountain.

**Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!**

*Luke 19:38 and Isaiah 11:4,9*

Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion!

See, your king comes to you,  
righteous and having salvation,  
gentle and riding on a donkey...

He will take away the chariots from Ephraim  
and the war-horses from Jerusalem,  
and the battle-bow will be broken.  
He will proclaim peace to the nations.

*Zechariah 9: 9-11*

Come, Lord Jesus.

**Amen! Amen!**

*A donkey, symbolising the coming King of Peace, may be brought into the church as music is played or a hymn sung*

## A6 Liberation / Redemption

The Lord says, 'I am making all things new... I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end'

*Revelation 21: 5-6*

Dear friends,  
the year of Jubilee signified for ancient Israel  
a time for a new start -  
the restoration of the weak  
and the liberation of the oppressed.  
As Jesus proclaimed the Jubilee at the start of  
his ministry,

so we pray for it today: for the liberation,  
not only of men, women and children,  
but of the whole Creation -  
every living thing which God has made.

We seek God's forgiveness,  
as individuals and as a society,  
for the suffering which we have caused,  
and we pray for his grace,  
to become more effective instruments of his peace.  
As fellow-heirs of his coming kingdom,

We pray, as Jesus Himself taught us:

**Our Father in heaven,,,**

## A7 Environment

Praise be to you, O Sovereign God, Creator of all.  
By your Word the universe came to be,  
and through your Word  
every living creature is nurtured and sustained.  
We thank you for the fertility of the soil and the harvest  
of the land;  
we thank you for those who grow and provide our food,  
both here and abroad,  
and we thank you for those who sell it to us in  
their shops.  
We confess that, in this network of productivity,  
we have often allowed relationships  
with our fellow creatures and with each other,  
which should be good and mutually enriching,  
to become destructive and exploitative.

As we celebrate your goodness,  
open our eyes, O Lord, to behold your presence  
amongst us  
and strengthen our hands to do your will,  
that the whole of Creation, marred by human sin,  
may know the peace and joy of your kingdom,  
- the pure harvest that is at one with your will,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit:  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

O be joyful in the Lord, all the earth;  
**Serve the Lord with gladness  
and come before his presence with a song.**  
Know that the Lord is God;  
**It is he who has made us and we are his.**

*From Psalm 100*

**A8 Collect** *From Common Worship*

Almighty God,  
you have broken the tyranny of sin  
and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts  
whereby we call you Father:  
give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service,  
that we and all creation may be brought  
to the glorious liberty of the children of God;  
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.

**B: PENITENCE**

**B1 Creation** 'Through Christ God was pleased to reconcile to himself  
all things,  
whether on earth or in heaven'.

*(Colossians 1:19-20)*

Gracious Father,  
of your own free love  
you brought the universe into being,  
and every living creature is precious in your sight.  
For our failure to reverence what you have made,  
have mercy on us...  
By your grace we live;  
**forgive us and heal us.**

Gracious Redeemer,  
you sent your Son to defeat the sin and evil of this world,  
to liberate creation from its bondage to decay  
and to bring us into the glorious freedom of the children  
of God.

For the wanton cruelty and destruction inflicted upon  
your creatures,  
have mercy on us...  
By your grace we are saved;  
**forgive us and heal us.**

Gracious God,  
you have marked us with the seal of the Spirit  
and called us, weak and sinful though we may be,  
to proclaim your kingdom of peace and love.  
For our reluctance to heed your summons  
to stand for you  
against human abuse of animals and arrogant  
exploitation, have mercy on us.  
**By your grace we are called, O Lord.  
Forgive us and heal us,  
and make us strong to serve you.**

**B2 Animal Testing**

Human sin disfigures the whole creation,  
as it groans with eager longing for God's redemption.

*(cf Romans 8:22,23)*

The weight of suffering amongst God's creatures  
bears heavily upon us,  
but it is a load we need not bear alone.  
Lord of life and of death,  
of the present and of the future,  
we bring before you our anguish in the face of suffering,  
our despair in the face of cruelty,  
and our helplessness in the face of death.  
Strengthen us to bear this burden,  
*and in your power, renew us.*

We bring before you, Lord,  
the thousands of animals, dying in our laboratories  
every year -  
those that suffer simply to satisfy our vanity, curiosity  
and greed;  
those that are compelled to endure experiments of no  
relevance to their welfare;  
those bred for organ transplants;  
those facing pain and torment from diseases  
deliberately introduced into their bodies;  
those that never taste the freedom of the outside world  
from the moment they are born to the time they die.  
Strengthen us to lighten their burden,  
**and in your power, renew us.**

God of the desolate and despairing,  
your Son Jesus Christ  
was forced to carry the instrument of his own death  
- the cross that became for us the source of life  
and healing.

Transform us in our grief and despair  
that in the pain we bear you might be for us,  
and for the animals we pray for,  
a fount of life and a spring of hope;  
through him who died for us,  
yet is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **B3 The Servant-King**

Christ the King has come to dispel the darkness of  
our hearts.  
In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

Heavenly Father,  
your Son, the Prince of Peace,  
came to your holy city on a donkey,  
the royal mount of peace.  
For the cruelty and violence  
we have inflicted on our fellow-creatures,  
and for our failure to defend them from abuse,  
Father, forgive us  
**cleanse and change our hearts.**

Heavenly Father,  
your Son, the Servant-King,  
came to his sacrifice on an ass,  
the world's most ill-used beast of burden.  
For the pride of power with which we have rejected  
our vocation  
to serve the earth and its creatures as your stewards,  
Father, forgive us,  
**cleanse and change our hearts.**

Heavenly Father,  
your Son shared his triumphal procession  
with one of the least regarded of your creatures.  
For the greed and self-indulgence  
with which, to gratify our selfish desires,  
we have allowed so many living wonders of  
your handiwork  
to suffer, even to extinction,  
Father, forgive us,  
**cleanse and change our hearts.**

**In our sin we have avoided your call.  
Our love for you is like a morning cloud,  
like dew that goes away early.  
Have mercy on us;  
deliver us from judgement;  
bind up our wounds and revive us;  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

May the God of love  
bring you back to himself,  
forgive you your sins,  
and assure you of his eternal love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

#### B4 General

Loving God,  
Creator and Lord of the universe,  
you have surrounded us with beauty and goodness,  
and provided us, from the fruits of the earth,  
with everything we need.

We confess that, through our selfishness and greed,  
we have abused your generosity  
and marred your Creation.

We are truly sorry.

Forgive us, we pray, and renew us in heart and mind.

Holy God,  
holy and strong,  
holy and immortal,  
**have mercy upon us.**

God of our Salvation,  
you have made us in your image,  
so that we might know you and love you,  
and represent your gracious rule amongst your creatures.  
Yet we have abused your trust.

Forgive us, Lord, our cruelty and wanton destruction:

- the unnecessary taking of life;
  - the suffering caused by intensive farming;
  - the maltreatment of pets and other animals,  
bought and sold to satisfy our vanity and  
needless pleasure;
  - the decimation of wild life brought about by pollution,  
hunting, poaching, and the destruction of habitat;
- Forgive the arrogance of our race,  
which regards animals as existing simply to serve  
human ends,  
and which transforms your divine dominion  
into a diabolical tyranny.  
We are heartily sorry and repent of our sin.

Cleanse us and heal us,  
that by the power of your Spirit,  
we may be remade in the image of your Son, Jesus,  
the Servant-King,  
and raised to a new life in him,  
the second Adam, the first-fruits of your  
redeemed Creation.

Holy God,  
holy and strong,  
holy and immortal,  
**have mercy upon us.**

O God, our beginning and our end,  
Bless, we pray, the countless organisations  
and individuals,  
who are working to relieve the suffering of animals  
and to promote their welfare.  
We remember especially the Anglican Society  
for the Welfare of Animals, its members and officers.  
Help us all to play our part  
in freeing Creation from its bondage  
and in bringing it into the glorious liberty of the children  
of God.

We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

#### B5 General

*As part of an act of penitential remembrance, the name  
of each species of animal being prayed for is read out.  
The number that have died over the past year might  
also be mentioned. A bell is tolled and a short period of  
silence kept.*

Let us pray that we may know light and hope in  
Jesus Christ:

through our love for Nature,  
through our care for animals,  
through our respect for every living creature:  
**Father, hallowed be your name.**

On our farms and in our homes,  
in our colleges and schools,  
wherever we deal with other living creatures,  
and wherever animal welfare is planned,  
**Father, your kingdom come.**

By the exercise of humble dominion,  
by sharing in your rule of love,  
by following Jesus, the servant-king,  
**Father, your will be done.**

Through openness to your life-giving Word  
and your way of Peace  
**give us today our daily bread.**

We have broken your commandments,  
and pursued our own selfish pleasures and ambitions  
at the cost of our fellow creatures,  
**forgive us our sins.**

Where we have been mocked, maligned or injured  
in the work we have sought to do for animals:  
**we forgive those who sin against us.**

When successes lull us into complacency,  
or setbacks prompt us to despair,  
when frustration with others  
draws us into a self-righteous desire to judge  
or condemn:  
**lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

In the assurance of faith,  
in the confidence of hope,  
in the will to serve,  
help us to honour Christ as Lord,  
love one another as ourselves,  
and bring the good news of redemption  
to every living creature.  
**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

## C: LITURGY OF THE WORD

### C1 General

*Suggested Bible Readings:*

Genesis 1: 1-3, 24-31a: 'The Story of Creation'  
Genesis 2: 4b-9, 15-end: 'Human beings share in God's rule over Creation'  
Genesis 8: 1-5,15-19 & 9: 8-13 'God's Covenant with Noah and all Creatures'  
Exodus 23:10-13 'Animals share in the Sabbath Rest' (see also Exodus 20:8-11)  
Numbers 22:21-35 'Balaam's donkey'  
1 Kings 17:1-6 'Elijah fed by ravens'  
Psalm 23 'The Lord is my Shepherd'  
Psalm 104: 1,10-18,24 'God's providential care for all creatures'  
Psalm 148: 'Creation worships God'  
Isaiah 11:1-9: 'Isaiah's vision of universal peace'  
John 1: 1-14: 'God's Creative Word made flesh in Jesus'  
Romans 8: 18-23: 'Creation awaits its liberation'  
Ephesians 1: 3-10: 'All things united in Christ'  
Colossians 1: 15-20: 'Cosmic Redemption in Christ'  
Revelation 4: 1-11: 'The Song of Creation around the throne of the God of the Rainbow.'  
Revelation 5: 6-14: 'The living creatures share in the Song of Redemption'

### C2 General

*Short Bible passages originally presented as a single reading by four different readers:*

John 1:1-3: 'The Creative Word'  
Mark 1:12-13: 'The Second Adam with the Wild Beasts'  
Matthew 6:25-26a, 28-29: 'God's creatures fed and clothed'  
John 10:11-15: 'The Good Shepherd'

**C3 Creation** *Readings and prayers linked together and based on the Genesis Creation Story:*

LIGHT:

*The two main candles on the altar are lit*

Genesis 1: 3-5 'God creates light'

*Silence is kept.*

As light dawns upon our world each morning,  
so may your light, O Christ, dawn in our hearts this day.  
Illumine our minds  
and dispel the dark shadows of selfishness, fear  
and hatred;  
for your dear Name's sake.

WATER:

*A large jug of water is placed on the altar*

Genesis 1: 6-8 'God creates water',

*Silence is kept.*

O God, eternal fount of life,  
As streams and rivers flow through the mountains  
and plains,  
to refresh the land and quench our thirst,  
may your Spirit flow through us.  
May you wash away our sin,  
revive our zeal,  
renew the earth,  
and become within us a spring welling up to eternal life.  
We ask this in the name of your only Son,  
our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

LAND:

*A glass bowl of earth or plant in a pot is placed on the altar.*

Genesis 1:9-13: 'God creates plants and trees',

*Silence is kept.*

Lord of the harvest,  
we praise you for the fruits of the earth  
which you give to us in their seasons.  
Help us so to use them,  
that we may hasten the time  
when the whole Creation  
will enter into the glorious liberty  
of the children of God,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

SUN, MOON AND STARS:

*Additional small candles are lit*

Genesis 1: 14-19: 'God creates 'lights' in the sky',

*Silence is kept.*

Almighty God,  
you have created the heavens and the earth  
and made us in your own image:  
teach us to discern your hand in all your works  
and your likeness in all your children;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who with you and the Holy Spirit  
reigns supreme over all things  
now and for ever.

LIVING CREATURES:

*Pictures of animals for whom people are praying are brought forward and placed on the altar*

Genesis 1: 20-31: 'God creates the fish and the birds, the animals and the humans'

*Silence is kept.*

Almighty God,  
you have broken the tyranny of sin  
and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts  
whereby we call you Father:  
give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service,  
that we and all creation may be brought  
to the glorious liberty of the children of God;  
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.

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD:

*The Paschal or Easter candle is lit.*

We light this candle  
to remind us that when God the Father sent his Son,  
it was to reconcile the whole of Creation to himself,  
both things in heaven and things on earth.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world,  
a light no darkness can quench.

May the light of Christ banish all darkness  
from our hearts and from the world.

John 1: 1-14: 'The Light of the World'

*Candles held by the congregation may be lit*

**C4 Liberation** *Readings on the theme of freedom:*

Leader: Job is reminded by God of the many animals living free in  
the wild.

Reader: "Then the Lord answered Job out of the storm. He said:  
'... Do you know when the mountain goats give birth? Do  
you watch when the doe bears her fawn? ... Who let the  
wild donkey go free? Who untied his ropes? I gave him  
the wasteland as his home, the salt flats as his habitat...  
Will the wild ox consent to serve you? Will he stay by  
your manger at night? ... Does the hawk take flight by  
your wisdom and spread his wings towards the south?  
Does the eagle soar at your command and build his nests  
on high? ...' Then Job answered the Lord: 'I am unworthy  
– how can I reply to you? I put my hand over my mouth. I  
spoke once, but I have no answer – twice, but I will say no  
more.'"

*Job 38:1; 39:1,5-6,9,26-27; 40: 3-5*

Leader: The Israelites saw their animals as sharing in the  
blessings of their God-given freedom:

Reader: "Observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy ...On it  
you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or  
daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your  
ox, your donkey or any of your animals ... Remember  
that you were slaves in Egypt and that the Lord your  
God brought you out of there with a mighty hand and an  
outstretched arm."

*Deuteronomy 5: 12,13-15a*

Leader: A prophet described the return of the people from  
captivity in Babylon as like a second Exodus, spelling  
both the restoration of the land and the freeing of  
captives:

Reader: The desert and the parched land will be glad;  
the wilderness will rejoice and blossom.  
Like the crocus, 2 it will burst into bloom;  
it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy.  
The glory of Lebanon will be given to it,  
the splendour of Carmel and Sharon;  
they will see the glory of the LORD,  
the splendour of our God.  
3 Strengthen the feeble hands,  
steady the knees that give way;  
4 say to those with fearful hearts,  
"Be strong, do not fear;  
your God will come,  
he will come with vengeance;  
with divine retribution  
he will come to save you."  
5 Then will the eyes of the blind be opened  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped.  
6 Then will the lame leap like a deer,  
and the mute tongue shout for joy.  
Water will gush forth in the wilderness  
and streams in the desert.  
7 The burning sand will become a pool,  
the thirsty ground bubbling springs.  
In the haunts where jackals once lay,  
grass and reeds and papyrus will grow.

*Isaiah 35:1-7*

Leader: The freedom and redemption of Creation is not something that God purposes to bring through us:

Reader: "The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration ..., in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God."

*Romans 8: 19-21*

## C5 Non-biblical Readings

*From 'Civilization and Ethics', by Albert Schweitzer:*

It is the fate of every truth to be the object of ridicule when it is first acclaimed. It was once considered foolish to suppose that black men were really human beings and ought to be treated as such. What was once foolish has now become a recognized truth. Today it is considered as exaggeration to proclaim constant respect for every form of life as being the serious demand of a rational ethic. But the time is coming when people will be amazed that the human race existed so long before it recognized that thoughtless injury to life is incompatible with real ethics. Ethics is in its unqualified form extended responsibility to everything that has life.

*'God's Grandeur', by Gerard Manley Hopkins*

The world is charged with the grandeur of God.  
It will flame out, like shining from shook foil;  
It gathers to a greatness, like the ooze of oil  
Crushed. Why do men then now not reckon his rod?  
Generations have trod, have trod, have trod;  
And all is seared with trade; bleared, smeared with toil;  
And wears man's smudge and shares man's smell: the soil  
Is bare now, nor can foot feel, being shod.

And for all this, nature is never spent;  
There lives the dearest freshness deep down things;

And though the last lights off the black West went  
Oh, morning, at the brown brink eastward, springs –  
Because the Holy Ghost over the bent  
World broods with warm breast and with ah!  
bright wings.

*From 'Auguries of Innocence', by William Blake*

To see a World in a Grain of Sand  
And a Heaven in a Wild Flower,  
Hold Infinity in the palm of your hand  
And Eternity in an hour.

A Robin Redbreast in a Cage  
Puts all Heaven in a Rage.  
A dove house fill'd with doves and pigeons  
Shudders Hell thro' all its regions.  
A dog starv'd at his Master's gate  
Predicts the ruin of the State.  
A Horse misus'd upon the Road  
Calls to Heaven for Human blood.  
Each outcry of the hunted Hare  
A fibre from the brain does tear.  
A Skylark wounded in the wing,  
A Cherubim does cease to sing.

*From 'The Task' by William Cowper (1731-1800)*

I would not enter on my list of friends  
(Though graced with polish'd manners and fine sense,  
yet wanting sensibility) the man  
who needlessly sets foot upon a worm.  
An inadvertent step may crush the snail,  
That crawls at evening in the public path;  
But he that has humanity, forwarn'd,  
Will tread aside, and let the reptile live.

Ye, therefore, who love mercy, teach your sons  
To love it too. The springtime of our years  
Is soon dishonour'd and defiled in most  
By budding ills, that ask a prudent hand  
To check them. But, alas! None sooner shoots,  
Than cruelty, most devilish of them all.  
Mercy to him that shows it, is the rule

By which Heaven moves in pardoning guilty man;  
And he that shows none, being ripe in years,  
And conscious of the outrage he commits,  
Shall seek it, and not find it in his return.

*Cardinal Newman*

“There is something so very dreadful, so satanic in tormenting those who have never harmed us, and who cannot defend themselves, who are utterly in our power, who have neither weapons of offence or defence, that none but very hardened persons can endure the thought of it.”

*John Woolman, Quaker*

“Where the love of God is verily perfected ... a tenderness towards all creatures will be experienced and a care felt that we do not lessen that sweetness of life ... that the great Creator intends for them under our Government ... To say that we love God and at the same time exercise cruelty towards the least creature is a contradiction in itself.”

*Additional Suggested Readings:*

‘Eden’s Courtesy’ and ‘The Late Passenger’ by C. S. Lewis

‘Green’, by Elizabeth Jennings, in *The Lion Christian Poetry Collection* (1995)

Description of work in an experimental research station at the beginning of ‘The Plague Dogs’ by Richard Adams (Author of ‘Watership Down’) and in ‘Chimera’ by Stephen Gallagher.

## D: HYMNS, ANTHEMS, PSALMS AND CANTICLES

- D1 Hymn List**
- ‘All creatures of our God and King’  
(Words: W.H. Draper, based on St. Francis of Assisi’s ‘Canticle of the Sun’. Tune: Melody from *Geistliche Kirchentag*, arr. R. Vaughan Williams)
  - ‘As the deer pants for the water’  
(Words and music: Martin Nystrom)
  - ‘At the name of Jesus’  
(Words: Caroline Maria Noel; Tune: William Henry Monk)
  - ‘Father, Lord of all creation’  
(Words: Stewart Cross; Tune: ‘Abbot’s Leigh’.)
  - ‘God is love: let heaven adore Him’  
(Words: Timothy Rees; Tune: ‘Alleluia’ or ‘Abbot’s Leigh’)
  - ‘Lord of beauty, thine the splendour’  
(Words: C.A. Alington; Tune: Rhuddlan)
  - ‘Love divine, all loves excelling’  
(Words: Charles Wesley; Tune: ‘Blaenwern’)
  - ‘Make me a channel of Your peace’  
(Words and Tune: Sebastian Temple)
  - ‘Morning has broken’  
(Words: Eleanor Farjeon; Tune: tradit. Gaelic)
  - ‘O Lord, my God’ [‘How great thou art’]  
(Words: Karl Boberg (1859-1940);  
Tune: Swedish folk melody).
  - ‘O praise ye the Lord!’  
(Words: Sir HW Baker; Tune: *Laudate Dominum*)
  - ‘O worship the King all glorious above’  
(Words: Sir R. Grant; Tune: ‘Hanover’)
  - ‘Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation’  
(Words: Joachim Neander trans. Catherine Winkworth;  
Tune: from ‘*Praxis Pietatis Melica*’)
  - ‘The king of love my shepherd is’  
(Words: H. W. Baker; Tune: *Dominus Regit Me*)

'The Lord's my Shepherd'  
(Words: Scottish Psalter 1650; Tune: Crimond)

Thou, whose almighty word'  
(Words: J. Marriott; Tune: Moscow)

## D2 Additional Verses

*Hymns with additional verses which could be included to emphasise the theme of animal welfare:*

'Lord of beauty, thine the splendour'  
Words: C.A. Alington; Tune: 'Rhuddlan'

*Additional 3rd Verse:*

Lord of hope, your world is waiting,  
every creature high and low,  
for an end of all their torment,  
exploitation, needless woe.  
In the wasteland of their suff'ring  
may your streams of justice flow.

Words: H. Broadbent

'O Lord, my God' ('How great thou art')  
Words: Karl Boberg (1859-1940);  
Tune: Swedish folk melody.

*Additional last verse:*

When Christ completes his reconciliation  
Of all in heaven and all on earth below,  
I'll join the worship of redeemed Creation.  
My heart with love and joy shall overflow.

Words: H. Broadbent

## D3 Animal Welfare Hymns

*New hymns explicitly written on the theme of animal welfare and cosmic redemption:*

1) Across a sea of chaos, dark and brooding,  
The Spirit stirs; our Maker brings to birth  
His plan for life ablaze with love and beauty,  
And countless creatures on a fruitful earth.  
Our fath'ring God within his heart rejoices  
As he beholds their wonder and their worth.

Beneath a sea of violence and injustice  
This precious life is drowning day by day.  
Creation smeared by cruel exploitation;  
The selfish path we tread with feet of clay,  
We reach the end, our dignity distorted,  
And see the Maker's image fade away.

Upon the sea a fragile ark is drifting,  
A sign of hope that rises with the flood.  
For Man becomes a servant of redemption  
To bird and beast, as now he seeks their good.  
The rainbow-God shows in a dove his mercy -  
His love for all more clearly understood.

The chaos gone! Our God one day will conquer.  
His love will bring a harmony complete,  
As grief and pain, the sorrow all around us,  
Are swallowed up in victory so sweet.  
The Lamb of God will reign on high for ever,  
As living creatures worship at his feet!

Words: H.P.C. Broadbent; Tune: 'Finlandia'

2) Behold our God rejoicing  
In all that He has made:  
His order and His beauty  
In wondrous power displayed;  
A mystery unfolding -  
His vision near to birth  
Of peace and love embracing  
All things in heaven and earth.

Behold our Maker grieving  
As Man usurps His throne,  
Abusing fellow-creatures  
He thinks that he can own.  
God sees the callous tyrant,  
The needless blood he's spilt.  
He hears the cry for mercy  
- Our judgement and our guilt.

But now the Man for Others,  
A Second Adam, reigns!  
In love he comes amongst us

To share Creation's pains.  
He rides a lowly donkey  
The humble path to peace.  
Old Adam will be vanquished  
And all oppression cease!

We praise the faithful Shepherd,  
His changeless love proclaim,  
Who nurtures us and guides us  
And calls us each by name.  
He risks his life to save us;  
For love he lays it down -  
Each child a priceless treasure,  
His joy, his pride, his crown.

In Christ, the faithful Shepherd,  
May we be faithful too.  
In Christ, the Second Adam,  
May God our minds renew:  
Remoulded in the pattern ~  
Of Christ, the Servant-King  
To care for all his creatures,  
Our lives our offering.

*Words: H.P.C. Broadbent; Tune: 'Cruger' or 'Thornbury'*

3) Creator God, with whom we share  
the ruling of your world, we ask  
as we are named creation's heirs  
make us more willing for our task.

For you have blessed all things that live,  
that run or fly or swim or crawl;  
but we were destined to receive  
our stewardship of care for all.

All creatures share your gift of breath;  
on every kind our race depends;  
like us, they move from birth to death,  
our servants, helpers, and our friends.

So turn us back from acts of wrong,  
from all unkindness and neglect;

reverse the abuses of the strong  
to right control and true respect.

Though now we find your world decayed,  
enslaved by fear and locked in pain,  
in Christ creation is remade,  
all things restored, set free again.

O Christ, you shared a cattle stall  
and rode the path a donkey trod;  
Redeemer, Servant, Lord of all,  
all creatures praise you, Lamb of God!

*Words: Christopher Idle; Tune: 'Winchester New'*

4) How can it be  
That children of a Father-God  
Can be so blind  
To Sin's corrosive stain;  
That we should make  
Compassion seem a dirty word  
And stop our ears  
To cries of fear and pain?  
O God of love,  
In you Creation's hope revives.  
In you each creature's worth is understood.  
O God of love,  
Have mercy on their broken lives,  
For as our Father-God you purpose only good.

How can it be  
That bird and beast should languish so  
On fact'ry farms,  
From birth to death confined?  
They never feel the sun above or earth below,  
But simply serve  
The greed of humankind.  
A price too high!  
Abused, exploited, cheaply sold -  
The hidden cost  
To fill our groaning shelves!  
A price too high

When we become so callous-cold  
And bring such shame and deep dishonour on ourselves.

When will it be  
That we embrace our Christian call  
To bring the peace of God upon the earth,  
So Man and beast,  
In slavish toil through Adam's Fall,  
Are freed to share  
His new Creation's birth?  
O God of love,  
Like fire, consume our selfish pride.  
O God of love  
Come warm our hearts of stone.  
O God of love  
Come light the Way. Our footsteps guide  
Towards the dawn of grace your rising Son has shown.

*Words: H.P.C. Broadbent; Tune: Londonderry Air*

5) Image of gold,  
Erected once in Babylon,  
Sign of a ruler's lust to domineer -  
Bullied and beaten,  
Brazenly downtrodden,  
All in its shadow  
Lived as slaves to fear.

Idols of gold  
Can still corrupt our lives today.  
Driven by profit, greed still takes its toll:  
Conscience sedated,  
Nature decimated,  
Gaining the world  
Yet forfeiting the soul!

Image divine!  
In Adam God desires to see  
Mirrored in us His care for all He's made:  
Tilling and tending,  
Man and Nature blending,  
Living in peace, His glory thus displayed.

Image renewed!  
In Christ we can be born again,  
Mirror the Lord, th'eternal God of grace.  
May we be worthy,  
Worthy of our calling.  
May bird and beast behold in us His face!

*Words: H.P.C. Broadbent; Tune: 'Lord of the Years'*

6) Long before the reign of kings,  
when the sun first lit the shore,  
earth was filled with living things  
God was pleased with what he saw.  
Jungle beasts which Adam named,  
creatures of the sea and air,  
animals his children tamed  
found God's blessing and his care.

God delighted to create  
and supply with home and food  
mites and monsters, small and great,  
safely carried through the flood.  
Forest dwellers, prairie herds,  
all with fur or scale or wing,  
tell his glory without words  
and their Maker's splendour sing.

For they all fulfil his plan  
and shall know his perfect reign  
free from cruelty of man,  
free from spur and whip and chain,  
when gazelles lie down to sleep  
next to hunters of the wild -  
wolf and lamb and bear and sheep  
tended by a little child.

God who sees the sparrow fall,  
King of earth and sea and sky;  
Holy Spirit, Lord of all,  
without you we fade and die;  
Christ our Sacrifice who came  
as a lamb to shed your blood:

all that lives shall praise your name,  
Maker, Saviour, living God!

*Words: Christopher Idle; Tune: 'St. Edmund'*

7) Lord of life and love unbounded,  
Blessèd Holy Trinity,  
From the dark primeval chaos  
You have brought your world to be.  
May we glimpse in all your creatures  
That same goodness which you see.

Called to share in your dominion;  
Exercising royal rule,  
We must follow you in Jesus,  
Servant-king, not tyrant cruel.  
Help us tend the world, your Garden,  
Groaning, waiting for renew'l.

May our minds embrace your vision  
Of the prophet's holy hill: -  
Wolf and lamb at peace together,  
Love's shalom, your perfect Will.  
Like an ocean, come salvation!  
All Creation flood and fill!

*Words: H.P.C Broadbent*

*Tune: 'Regent Square' or 'Rhuddlan'.*

8) Loving Shepherd of Creation,  
Hear us, as we cry to thee  
In defence of all your creatures,  
Lift the veil, that we might see  
How our silence feeds their suffering;  
Hunted, tortured and destroyed.  
Give us courage, make us fearless,  
Speak through us, your healing word.

Lamb of God, your wounded nation.  
Pains of birth; groans in travail.  
Long awaits her liberation,  
Halt, the silent scars revealed.

Lift to heaven our supplications,  
Borne on candle's flickering flame.  
Deeds of wickedness exposing,  
Witness to God's saving name.

Jesus, Lord of all Creation,  
Send your Spirit from above.  
Let the Dove of Peace embrace us  
Gently, as your Spirit moves.  
Bringing healing to this nation,  
Turning darkness into light.  
Let the flame of love grow brighter,  
All your creatures, Lord, unite.

*Words: Linda J. Bodicoat;*

*Tune: 'Abbot's Leigh' or 'Hyfrydol'*

9) O Lord, across the centuries  
Down labyrinthine ways,  
Your love pursues us with a zeal  
Which nothing can erase.  
And though we plumb the darkest depths  
And soar to heights unknown,  
We cannot flee the Hound of Heav'n,  
For all is but your own.

In forest, field, with bird or beast  
No refuge can we find.  
The chase begun - the Hound of Heav'n  
Is always close behind.  
And still your voice we hear above  
His slow, unhurried tread:  
'The earth is mine and all therein,  
And by my hand you're fed.'

No place to go, we stand at bay,  
The Hound of Heaven's eyes  
Now penetrate our deepest thoughts  
Which we cannot disguise.  
He bears the marks of grief and pain;  
His message blazoned red:  
'With ev'ry creature you have harmed,  
I've suffered too, and bled.'

Our fear and guilt all melting in ~  
The warmth of Love's embrace.  
Redeemed, renewed, we gladly join  
The Hound in heav'nly chase.  
For through his eyes the wonder of ~  
Each creature now we see,  
And heed his call to make the world  
As it is meant to be.

*Words: H.P.C. Broadbent  
(inspired by Francis Thompson's poem,  
'The Hound of Heaven')  
Tunes: Vox Dilecti or Kingsfold*

10) Our Father in heaven, by his mercy and grace,  
Has called us and led us to serve him in this place.  
The seed of his Word of Life in us he sows.  
Let's pray that the fruit of his Spirit grows.

*Praise him, you people ev'rywhere!  
Praise the Creator who holds us in his care!  
As freely he gives to us, so freely we share  
For the sake of the Gospel we're called to bear.*

The Lord is our Maker and his Purpose is good,  
Yet we have rebelled, disobeyed, misunderstood.  
We've nailed our rejection to a cross of wood  
And failed to obey as we know we should.

The Lord of the Harvest knows our ev'ry need.  
Let go of your cravings, your selfishness and greed,  
Pollution – the spoiling of this earth – must cease  
So Nature can enter his Reign of Peace.

The birds and the animals on farm and field  
Are more than the measures of economic yield.  
They're loved by their Maker; and he calls you and me  
To care for, and treat them, with dignity.

The God of the humble is the God of the poor;  
The plight of the needy He never will ignore.  
He's building a kingdom which is just and fair,  
So all of his bounty may taste and share.

*Words: H.P.C. Broadbent  
(written originally for Ecology Link and inspired by the  
L.O.A.F. principles);  
Music: Adaptation of trad. Shaker melody by Sydney  
Carter – 'Lord of the Dance'*

11) The earth is the Lord's, and all things therein,  
His word tells that all creation is good;  
He cares for all living the round world within,  
He gives to all creatures their life and their food.

Fierce lions look up to God for their needs;  
The fish in the sea, the birds in the air,  
The wild goats and cattle His providence feeds,  
And all have a place in His fatherly care.

How blessed are they who work with goodwill  
To heal suffering beasts in sickness and pain;  
God prospers their labours, their patience and skill,  
For merciful men shall His mercy obtain.

The earth is the Lord's, his promise is true,  
His goodness and care shall never remove:  
Lord, send forth Thy Spirit, inspire us anew  
To care for Thy creatures with mercy and love.

*Words: Rory Jenkins; Tune: 'Hanover'*

12) The Lord is our Father. In his mercy and grace  
He has called us and led us to serve him in this place.  
His blessings are many; let us pray that they'll grow  
In the land we inhabit, the love we sow.

*Praise God, you people ev'rywhere!  
Praise your Creator who holds you in his care!  
As freely he gives to us, so freely we share  
In the joy of his gospel that's just and fair.*

The Lord of the Harvest knows our ev'ry need,  
We let go of our craving, our selfishness and greed,  
So pollution and spoiling of this earth may cease  
And Creation may enter God's Reign of Peace.

The creatures exploited on our farm and our field  
Are much more than a measure of economic yield.  
They are loved by the Father; let us care for them too.  
It's the task of dominion for me and you.

The God that we worship is the God of the poor.  
It is wrong when they hunger while we have always more.  
Let's trade so they benefit; let's share and let's give,  
That we all of his bounty may taste and live.

The Lord is our Maker and his Purpose is good,  
So then why does it seem that he's so misunderstood?  
We have nailed our rejection to a cross of wood  
And have failed to obey as we know we should.

*Words: H. Broadbent; Tune: 'Lord of the Dance'*

13) To you, O God, we lift our supplications,  
Confessing all that we may try to hide.  
Take to your arms our grief for all creation,  
Suffering through war, injustice, greed and pride.

Help us to live in peace with all your creatures,  
Wisely and thoughtfully, good stewards be.  
Inspire us Lord, to grow in your true likeness,  
Our lives enriched by earth's diversity.

Lord, feed our hearts with grains of truth and mercy,  
Sow in our lives the seeds of earth's rebirth.  
'Till, in your time, the wolf and lamb together  
Lie down in safety, peace and lowly mirth.

*Words: Linda J. Bodicoat;*

*Tune: 'Highwood', 'O Perfect Love' or 'Lord of the Years'*

#### D4 List of Anthems

Bates: 'All creatures of the wild'  
L. van Beethoven: 'The heavens declare the glory of God'  
Haydn: 'The heavens are telling'  
Bullard: 'The friendly beasts'  
Maurice Greene: 'Thou visitest the earth'  
Harris: 'All creatures of our God and King'  
Rutter: 'All things bright and beautiful'  
Rutter: 'For the beauty of the earth'  
Schubert: 'The Lord is my shepherd'

#### D5 Psalms and Canticles

Psalms 8  
Psalms 23  
Psalms 95: 1-7  
Psalms 104: 24-31  
Psalms 148

Benedicite (The Song of the Three 35-65)

*From 'The Praises of God' by St. Francis of Assisi*

**...You, holy Father, are King of heaven and earth.  
You are Three and One,  
Lord God, all good...  
Lord God, living and true.  
You are love, You are wisdom.  
You are humility, You are endurance.  
You are rest, You are peace.  
You are joy and gladness.  
You are justice and moderation.  
You are all our riches, and You suffice for us.  
You are beauty. You are gentleness.  
You are our protector, You are our guardian  
and defender.  
You are courage. You are our haven and our hope.  
You are our faith, our great consolation.  
You are our eternal life, great and wonderful Lord,  
God almighty, merciful Saviour.**

## E: AFFIRMATIONS OF FAITH AND COMMITMENT

**E1** Brothers and sisters in Christ,  
we are called to share in God's royal rule,  
his loving dominion.  
The nature of this rule is revealed to us  
in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Servant-King.  
Will you, his children,  
imitate his example of compassion and humility?  
**We give ourselves, willingly and lovingly,  
to serve both our fellow human beings  
and our fellow creatures.  
We dedicate ourselves  
to overcoming tyranny,  
erradicating cruelty,  
and promoting the well-being of all.**

*A large cross may be carried in silence to the front of the church*

**E2** Loving God, Creator and Redeemer,  
we thank you that in Christ  
you have reconciled all things to yourself.  
May your love so enlighten and empower us,  
that we play our part  
in bringing your work to completion.  
May there be respect for your earth,  
delight in the goodness of your world,  
true reconciliation,  
universal compassion,  
and peace amongst all your creatures,  
for the sake of your Son,  
who died to make us one in you. Amen.

**E3** *ACT OF COMMITMENT (based on the L.O.A.F. principles  
of Ecology Link - Locally grown, Organically produced,  
Animal Friendly and Fairly traded):*

Will you strive to live more simply,  
to value food that is locally produced,  
and to appreciate the regional varieties of the produce  
grown

here in this place to which God has called you?  
**With the help of God, we will.**

Will you oppose the unnecessary pollution of the soil  
and destruction of habitat for wildlife,  
will you commit yourselves to explore the merits of  
organic food,  
and will you endeavour, in whatever way you can,  
to respect and care for the environment?  
**With the help of God, we will.**

Will you combat cruelty to farm animals  
and seek both to improve their conditions  
and to promote their well-being?  
**With the help of God, we will.**

Will you seek to serve Christ in one another,  
rejecting the exploitation of the poor  
and working for fairer trade  
and a greater sharing of the blessings God has given us  
to enjoy?  
**With the help of God, we will.**

**E4** *A minister stands beside a large candle*

God so loved the world that he sent his only Son.  
He was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him,  
that through him he might reconcile to himself  
all things in heaven and on earth.

*The candle is lit*

Jesus Christ is the light of the world,  
**a light no darkness can quench.**

May the light of Christ  
banish all darkness from our hearts and from his world.

**E5** The rainbow in the story of the Flood is a symbol of God's covenant love and commitment towards all his creatures. May it also be a sign of our readiness to serve him, to be his agents of universal peace.

*Members of the congregation come forward each holding a different coloured candle. After saying words relating to the colour of their candle, they place it on the altar*

1st Reader: Red is for fortitude.  
Amidst the many challenges we face in combating a cruel world,  
grant us, O heavenly Father, a steadfast and unconquered heart,  
which no tribulation can wear out  
and no unworthy purpose tempt aside.  
Your kingdom come  
**on earth as in heaven.**

2nd Reader: Orange is for fruitfulness.  
Bless all that we do in your name, O Lord,  
that in our labours we may show forth the fruit of the Spirit,  
and enable every animal whose welfare rests in our hands,  
to enjoy a freer, fuller and happier existence.  
Your kingdom come  
**on earth as in heaven.**

3rd Reader: Yellow is for faith.  
May our lives, O Lord, be grounded in you alone.  
Help us to trust you, to be open  
to your wisdom and grace.  
Your kingdom come  
**on earth as in heaven.**

4th Reader: Green is for love.  
O Lord, you have taught us  
that whatever we do to the least of your brethren we do to you.  
Give us grace to behold you in all your creatures,  
and always to be ready to serve them for your sake.  
Your kingdom come  
**on earth as in heaven.**

5th Reader: Blue is for fidelity.  
O Lord our God,  
you ask of your servants not success but faithfulness.  
Keep us true to the insights you have given us,  
and to the promises we have made.  
Your kingdom come  
**on earth as in heaven.**

6th Reader: Indigo is for royalty.  
O God, the eternal Ruler of the Universe,  
take from our hearts all pride and cruel arrogance,  
that we may acknowledge your gracious authority in our lives  
and serve you after the pattern of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ, the servant-king.  
Your kingdom come  
**on earth as in heaven.**

7th Reader: Violet is for temperance.  
O Lord, who in Jesus shared the life of the poor,  
save us from greed and from destructive, self-seeking pleasure,  
and help us to live more simply, that others may simply live.  
Your kingdom come  
**on earth as in heaven.**

## F: PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- F1** Almighty God,  
you have broken the tyranny of sin  
and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts  
whereby we call you Father:  
give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service,  
that we and all creation may be brought  
to the glorious liberty of the children of God;  
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.
- F2** Almighty God, maker of all living things,  
in whose Fatherly wisdom we trust and depend,  
enable us, by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
to recognise the works of your hand in all things.
- We give thanks to you, O God, for the opportunity  
to worship you on this special day, set aside as Animal  
Welfare Sunday.
- We remember with joy and gratitude all your creatures,  
whose beauty and diversity enrich our lives beyond  
measure.
- We ask your forgiveness for the many ways in which  
animals are abused and  
exploited through both ignorance and greed,  
and we confess before you our part in their suffering,  
acknowledging the time we have remained silent, lacking  
the courage to speak out in their defence.
- Strengthen us in our resolve  
as we aspire to lead the 'simple' life of faith and  
obedience,  
free from all earthly entrapments and material wealth,  
using earth's resources wisely and thoughtfully,  
faithfully following the example of your servant, St.  
Francis of Assisi.

Help us, O Lord, as we endeavour to live in harmony with  
all your creatures,  
leaving only the footprints of true discipleship upon this  
earth when we leave  
and not the deep scars of greed and exploitation.

Encourage and inspire each one of us to grow in your  
likeness  
and to be remembered for our simplicity of heart and  
generosity of spirit  
and for our 'oneness' with all creation.

Grant us, O merciful God, humble and contrite hearts  
and a clear vision of your purpose for us in your world,  
that we may become faithful stewards of your wondrous  
creation.

These things we ask in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

*(Prayer written for Animal Welfare Sunday  
by Linda Bodicoat)*

- F3** Loving God, Creator and Redeemer,  
you made us in your image  
and called us in Christ to be instruments  
of your just and gentle rule;  
enable us so to work in your world and to care for it,  
that our lives may conform to the pattern of your Son,  
the Servant-King.  
Pour your Spirit upon us  
**And renew the face of the earth.**
- We bring before you the millions of animals,  
who are abused for sport and entertainment,  
who are forced to endure long, unnecessary  
and life-threatening journeys when being taken to  
slaughter,  
or who suffer in our laboratories, in our abattoirs and  
on intensive farms (especially at this time we pray for... ).  
In their suffering ease their pain and fear  
by making them aware that you are with them,  
and show us how we may alter our lifestyles  
- the food we buy and the products we use -

to lessen the pain and the cruelty that they endure.

Pour your Spirit upon us

**And renew the face of the earth.**

We thank you for the companionship,  
which so many creatures afford us in our homes.  
Make us sensitive to their needs as well as to our own,  
and guide us as to how we may support the work  
of animal welfare organisations, especially ...  
(mention by name local animal welfare organizations)  
as they seek to combat cruelty  
and to promote the well-being of all domestic animals.  
Pour your Spirit upon us

**And renew the face of the earth.**

We praise you for the wonder and beauty  
of your world.  
'How many are your works.  
In wisdom you have made them all;  
the earth is full of your creatures'.  
Strengthen our resolve  
to protect endangered species in the wild.  
Move in the hearts and minds  
of people throughout the world,  
that there may be a growing reverence amongst us  
for the life you have given them,  
and a growing desire, that Creation may enter  
into the glorious liberty of the children of God.  
Loving God, Creator and redeemer,  
**Pour your Spirit upon us  
and renew the face of the earth.**

*An alternative response:*

May the earth be full of the knowledge of the Lord  
**as the waters cover the sea.**

**F4**

Eternal Father, Source of life and light,  
whose love extends to all people, all creatures, all things;  
grant us that reverence for life which becomes those who  
believe in you,  
lest we despise it, degrade it, or come callously to  
destroy it. **Amen.**

*Dr. Robert Runcie, former Archbishop of Canterbury*

**F5**

Lord, teach us to look at all I see around me as your  
creation.  
Let me never forget that the same God who made me  
made the whole world  
and all the animals that are in it.  
give me the grace to love all your creatures,  
for the sake of my Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ,  
who has redeemed me on the cross. **Amen.**

## G: THE PEACE

- G1** To express our solidarity in caring for animals and our desire to embrace God's universal peace, I invite the chosen representatives of N. ... to come forward.
- Representatives of named animal welfare organisations come forward to stand by the minister*
- To crown all things there must be love,  
to bind all together  
and complete the whole.  
Let the universal peace of Christ rule in our hearts,  
as we pledge ourselves anew  
to be instruments of his peace.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**and also with you.**

## H: CLOSING PRAYERS AND BLESSINGS

- H1** Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with peace and goodwill and make you partakers of the divine nature; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**
- H2** Let us praise our Creator and Redeemer, for in Christ he is reconciling all things to himself, in heaven above and on earth below:  
**Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,  
to receive power and wealth  
and wisdom and strength  
and honour and glory and praise!**

To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb  
**be praise and honour  
glory and power,  
for ever and ever! Amen.**

May God of the running wave,  
God of the flowing air,  
God of the quiet earth,  
and God of the shining stars  
give you his deep peace  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and the blessing ...

- H3** May God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the source of all goodness and growth, pour his blessing upon all things created, and upon you his children, that you may use his gifts to his glory and further his reign of universal peace; and the blessing ...

and those which cannot speak,  
all things honour you  
those which think,  
and those which cannot think.  
For there is one longing, one groaning,  
that all things have for you ...

All things pray to you that comprehend  
your plan and offer you a silent hymn.  
In you, the One, all things abide,  
and all things endlessly run to you  
who are the end of all.

*(St. Gregory Nazianzen, 'Hymn to God',  
quoted from 'Compassion for Animals',  
ed. By Andrew Linzey and Tom Regan, SPCK 1988)*

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- B2 - Introduction to Confession from New Patterns B6  
Concluding section from 'Facing Pain: A Service of Lament' (adapted) in New Patterns p.445
- B3 - Congregational prayer of Confession from New Patterns B43 and Absolution from New Patterns B73
- B4 - Response from New Patterns B54
- C3 - Prayers include the CW Collects for the 2nd Sunday before Lent and the 3rd Sunday after Trinity
- F1 - CW Collect for 3rd Sunday after Trinity
- G1 - Invitation to the Peace from New Patterns H35
- H1 - Blessing from CW Times and Seasons P1 (p.73)

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