

**La Côte Anglican Church**  
**Morning Worship on Zoom with Spiritual Communion**  
**Creation Time (2)**

***Jubilee for the Earth – a time to lament, a time to act***

**Gathering as the People of God**

*Begin your service by lighting a candle, and setting the space with other natural items that represent the agriculture or wilderness of your local ecology, and open by praying:*

***Greeting***

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All Amen.**

The Lord be with you

**All and also with you.**

The Spirit of God hovered over the water

**All and brought life to all creation.**

Come, Holy Spirit

**All and renew the face of the earth.**

*Silence is kept.*

***Prayer of Preparation***

**All 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.**

**Song / Hymn** *Love divine, all loves excelling (All Souls Orchestra, Prom Praise)*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=igs3mNsppsI&app=desktop>

Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heaven to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion  
pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation,  
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,  
let us all thy grace receive;  
suddenly return, and never,  
never more thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation,  
pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation,  
perfectly restored in thee.  
Changed from glory into glory,  
till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love, and praise!

*Charles Wesley (1707-1788)*

**Confession** (based on Leviticus 25:1-25)

God's whole creation groans.

The land produces thorns and thistles and longs to be set free.

Our sin affects all around us.

We confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Lord, you give us this good earth,  
yet we take your generous gifts for granted.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord, you give us this good earth,  
but we squander its rich resources.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, you give us this good earth,  
but we fail to share your bounty with all of your children.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*Pause*

Turn us from fear and mistrust,

**All and free us to imagine a life reconciled to the Earth and all creatures,  
through the Good News of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

May God who loved the world so much  
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour  
forgive us our sins  
and make us holy to serve him in the world,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

## **Liturgy of the Word**

### **First Reading**

**Genesis 50.15-21**

#### **Joseph Forgives His Brothers**

15 Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' <sup>16</sup>So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, <sup>17</sup>"Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup>Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' <sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. <sup>21</sup>So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

**Matthew 18.21-35**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

#### **Forgiveness**

21 Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.'

#### **The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant**

23 'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup>When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup>and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." <sup>29</sup>Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." <sup>30</sup>But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and

they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" <sup>34</sup>And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup>So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Sermon**

**Song 2** *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind*  
*sung by St Martin's Voices*

- 1 Dear Lord and Father of mankind,  
forgive our foolish ways;  
re-clothe us in our rightful mind;  
in purer lives thy service find,  
in deeper reverence, praise.
- 2 In simple trust like theirs who heard  
beside the Syrian sea  
the gracious calling of the Lord,  
let us, like them, without a word  
rise up and follow thee.
- 3 Drop thy still dews of quietness,  
till all our strivings cease;  
take from our souls the strain and stress,  
and let our ordered lives confess  
the beauty of thy peace.
- 4 Breathe through the heats of our desire  
thy coolness and thy balm;  
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;  
speak through the earthquake, wind and fire,  
O still small voice of calm.

*John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892)*

### **Affirmation of Faith**

**All I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

Lord, in your mercy  
**All** hear our prayer.

### **The Peace**

The harvest of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,  
patience, kindness, goodness,  
faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. (Galatians 5.22-23)

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**All** and also with you.

### **Preparation of the Table**

The Lord is here.  
**All** His Spirit is with us.  
Lift up your hearts.  
**All** We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**All** It is right to give thanks and praise.  
And now we give you thanks  
Because you have made us stewards of your creation,  
to praise you day by day  
for the marvels of your wisdom and power:  
so earth unites with heaven  
to sing the new song of creation:  
**All** Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**[Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.]**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

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

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them 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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice  
made once for all upon the cross.  
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection  
until he comes in glory.

[Great is the mystery of faith:]

**All Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

Lord of all life,  
help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.  
Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with [*N and*] all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever.

**All Amen.**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**All Our Father..**

### **Breaking of the Bread**

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

**All Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.**

### **An Act of Spiritual Communion**

Let us prepare ourselves so that we know the presence of Christ with us at this communion (short pause).

**All 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 you 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.**

### **Song 3**

#### **For the fruits of his creation**

*recorded remotely by the Choral Scholars of St Martin-in-the-Fields in their homes, and edited together.*

- 1 For the fruits of his creation,  
Thanks be to God;  
For his gifts to every nation,  
Thanks be to God;  
For the ploughing, sowing, reaping,  
Silent growth while we are sleeping,  
Future needs in earth's safe-keeping,  
Thanks be to God.
  
- 2 In the just reward of labour,  
God's will is done;  
In the help we give our neighbour,  
God's will is done;  
In our world-wide task of caring  
For the hungry and despairing,  
In the harvests we are sharing,  
God's will is done.

3 For the harvests of his Spirit,  
Thanks be to God;  
For the good we all inherit,  
Thanks be to God;  
For the wonders that astound us,  
For the truths that still confound us,  
Most of all that love has found us,  
Thanks be to God.

*Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000)*  
© 1970 Stainer & Bell Ltd

### **Blessing and dismissal**

May the road rise up to meet you.  
May the wind be always at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face;  
the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again,  
may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

**All Amen.**

Tend the earth, care for God's good creation  
and bring forth the fruits of righteousness.  
Go in the peace of Christ.

**All Thanks be to God.**

### **Prayer and Care**

This week if you would like prayer for anything, do contact [Peta Tracey](#), who will share your prayer request in confidence with our La Côte Church prayer group.

### **Finding out more about us**

Please go to [www.lacotechurch.ch](http://www.lacotechurch.ch) for more information about our church.

Worship this afternoon in the field next to Gingins at 4pm.

Please register if you are attending with Liz Bramley.

### **Support for our church**

On behalf of our church - thank you to all of you who are pledging and donating your collections online.

Thank you also to those who are putting collection money aside each week.

**Here are the bank details:**

<b>IBAN</b>	<b>CH42 0022 8228 5504 9740 H</b>
<b>Holder</b>	<b>The la Côte Anglican Church Development Association</b>
	<b>1267 Coinsins</b>
<b>BIC</b>	<b>UBSWCHZH80A</b>