



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Environment Programme

A Celebration of Animals

Welcome Hymm

*All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.*

Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colours,
He made their tiny wings.
Chorus: *All things bright and beautiful...*

The purple-headed mountain,
The river running by,
The sunset and the morning,
That brightens up the sky;
Chorus

The cold wind in the winter,
The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden,
He made them every one;
Chorus

He gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well.
Chorus

Look upon the animals, O God, which share our homes and our lives,
and which inspire us with their love and loyalty.

Bless them for the pleasure and companionship they give us
and for the work they do to help humankind.

Protect all those who suffer neglect and cruelty, we pray

And bring them the help they need.

Through Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

Saying sorry

Response: Heavenly Father , **Forgive us and help us**

For times we have hurt or teased animals in our care

Heavenly Father, **Forgive us and help us**

For the times we have neglected or forgotten

to look after animals that depend on us

Heavenly Father, **Forgive us and help us**

For the times we have seen animals in distress & done nothing to help

Heavenly Father, **Forgive us and help us**

For the times when we have failed to protect the environment

in which animals live, here and across the world

Heavenly Father , **Forgive us and help us**

Words of Forgiveness

Hear again the words of Jesus: 'Neither do I condemn you. Go, and sin no more.'

We thank you, Lord God, for your full and free forgiveness.

Thank you that you give us the chance to start again with a clean slate.

Help us to be loving, reliable and attentive with the animals in our care,

as well as responsible and courageous when we see animals in distress.

We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

**I were a butterfly,
I'd thank you, Lord, for giving me wings.
And if I were a robin in a tree,
I'd thank you, Lord, that I could sing.
And if I were a fish in the sea,
I'd wiggle my tail and I'd giggle with glee;
But I just thank you, Father,
For making me 'me'!**

*For you gave me a heart
And you gave me a smile,
You gave me Jesus
And you made me your child,
And I just thank you, Father,
For making me 'me' me.*

**If I were an elephant,
I'd thank you, Lord, by raising my trunk,
And if I were a kangaroo,
You know I'd hop right up to you.
And if I were an octopus,
I'd thank you, Lord, for my fine looks;
But I just thank you, Father,
For making me 'me'!**

**If I were a wiggly worm,
I'd thank you, Lord, that I could squirm.
And if I were a billy goat,
I'd thank you, Lord, for my strong throat.
And if I were a fuzzy-wuzzy bear,
I'd thank you, Lord, for my fuzzy-wuzzy hair;
But I just thank you, Father,
For making me 'me'!**

Bible Reading *Matthew 6:28*

Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life?

For the Word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God**

God said 'Let the waters bring forth living creatures,
And let birds fly across the sky.'
We thank you for the teeming life of the seas,
And the flight of the birds.
Help us to protect the environment
So that all life may flourish.
God of life: **Hear our prayer**

God said, 'let the earth bring forth living creatures of
every kind.'
We rejoice in the variety of animal life.
Grant us grace to treat all animals with respect and care;
To protect endangered species,
To preserve the variety of habitats,
And to honour the delicate balance of nature.
God of life: **Hear our prayer**

Heavenly Father, you have filled the world with beauty:
Open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works;
That, rejoicing in your whole creation we may learn to serve you with gladness,
for the sake of him through whom all things were made, Jesus Christ our Lord,
God of Life: **Hear our prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Act of Commitment: *please stand*

**We commit ourselves to care for the world God has given us;
to care for all creatures;
to cherish and provide for the pets and animals in our care;
to protect any animal we find in distress.**

Heavenly Father giver of all life,
Fill our hearts with generosity and love
That we may fulfil what we have promised;
Bless, O Lord, these creatures,
and all who are involved in their care and protection.
May our awareness of their needs
make us sensitive to the needs of every creature,
for we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**1. All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing!**

O praise him, Alleluia!

Thou burning Sun with golden beam,

The flowers and fruits that in thee grow.

Thou silver moon with softer gleam,

O praise him, O praise him,

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

**2. Dear mother earth, who day by day
Unfoldest blessings on our way,**

O praise him, Alleluia.

Let them his glory also show:

O praise him, O praise him,

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

3. Let all things their Creator bless,

And worship him in humbleness,

O praise him, Alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,

And praise the Spirit, three in One.

O praise him, O praise him,

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Blessing

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 the welfare of all peoples;
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be with you, and all who you love, today and always. **Amen.**