

# +WEEKLY REFLECTION

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## The Work of His Hands

This Sunday (6/9/26) marks the observance of the Feast in Creation of Christ for the first time after General Synod gave final approval to this new annual festival.

The Bishop of Norwich, as chair of the committee working on the new festival, explained: 'The festival does more than look back to the beginning of the world. It places the first creation within the whole sweep of God's purposes.'

The one through whom all things were made, Jesus Christ, is also the one through whom all things are reconciled and renewed."

Therefore, this year we are invited to celebrate the new festival, giving thanks for God's wonderful world and our place within it.

As we do, I am reminded of a Dad and his young son I have seen on Instagram. In his videos, the boy sits in front of his dad on his dad's bike on his crossbar as they travel together. What strikes me is not where they are going, but how the little boy sees.

Along the way, he notices everything. He points excitedly at rivers, bubbles, clouds, birds and all sorts of small wonders that many adults would pass by without a second glance. His world is alive with curiosity and delight. Nothing is ordinary. Everything is worth noticing.

I wonder if, as we grow older, our eyes can become dimmed to the beauty around us. We are distracted or simply accustomed to the familiar. The extraordinary gifts of creation can fade into the background noise of daily life.

The Festival of Creation in Christ calls us not merely to care for creation, but first to see it. To lift our eyes from our screens, our busy diaries and our concerns and notice anew the handiwork of God.

Beautiful clouds. Sunlight through a tree. Rain on a window. A bird's song in the early morning. They are invitations to wonder, moments that speak of the Creator's goodness.

So, I encourage you this week to set yourself a simple challenge. Each day, pause long enough to notice one thing in creation and marvel at it. Give thanks for it and let it draw your heart towards God. And perhaps, like that little boy on the bike, we may discover that the world is more beautiful than we realised.

*“The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.”*

*Psalm 19:1*

Lord, open our eyes to see your glory in creation and fill our hearts with wonder, gratitude and praise.  
Amen

**Archdeacon Jane Atkinson, Archdeacon of Blackburn**