

The Benefice of Clifton and Southill All Saints' Church, Clifton



The theme: **The whole World changed.**

Call to worship

This the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. We are the family of God. And are called by God's name. We are heirs of Christ's kingdom. And born of the Spirit. Let us, therefore, come together in thanksgiving.
Amen.

A gathering prayer

Lord God, giver of light and life, by your word you bring everything into being – the far-flung galaxies and the tiniest atomic particle. You have given us a world to enjoy and to care for. Give us compassion in the use of its resources, wisdom in our stewardship of your gifts, and reverence for all that you have made –for Jesus' sake.
Amen.

SAYING SORRY TO GOD

Lord, when you came into the world, things changed. When we came into a relationship with you, things changed. Life became filled with a new sense of purpose and peace. But, Lord, sometimes we let you down by doing wrong things or failing to do right things.

We are sorry, Lord.

Sometimes, Lord, through pride, stubbornness or fear we build barriers and keep others at arm's length – even you, Lord.

We are sorry, Lord.

At times we give in to our weaknesses and temptations, failing to draw on your strength. At times we are troubled by difficult situations and find it hard to trust you.

We are sorry, Lord.

Help us to turn such things around and turn to you. Help us to learn from the past and, drawing on your strength and peace, make a better future. Amen.

A prayer of Thanksgiving:

God, through your might and power the world was created, and through it now the world is changed, and ever changing. We read in the Scriptures of how you changed people's lives. We hear it in the stories of saints old and new. We know it through the experience and lives of our own communities. We thank and praise you for all that you have done through the changes you have made – and are still making – in our lives. We thank and praise you for the gift of your Holy Spirit who gives us – your people – strength, and the blessing of peace. Amen.

ACTIVITY followed by a *Worship Song*

Gospel Mark 1:4-11

TALK:

LET US SAY WHAT WE BELIEVE

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named. We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love. We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high. We believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAYERS *Followed by The Lord's Prayer:*

All Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

Worship Song

ENDING PRAYER

Lord, help us to be open to your prompting as we seek to discover what you would have us be and do. Remind us again and again that you have promised to be our guide and companion on our journey. Help us to look forward with renewed commitment, and bless our thinking and speaking and doing. In your name. Amen