

## Barthol Chapel and Tarves Kirks

Order of service Sunday 08 October 2023

Conducted by Susanna Bichard

### Theme: Our fellow creatures

**Call to worship** - 2 verses of hymn 136 translated from Gaelic original

All life in the river  
All fish in the sea  
Earth's numberless creatures  
God summoned to be

Each bird in the morning  
Each star in the sky  
Proclaims the Lord's goodness  
Which never can die

### Hymn 147 All creatures of our God and King v.1-4

#### Prayer & Lord's Prayer

#### Praise:

A song rings out through earth and sky,  
across the flowing water,  
"My life is given, the gift of heaven,  
to every living creature."

O Lord, forgive what we have done,  
our greed and domination.  
O Lord, restore in us again  
respect for your creation.

As strands within a fragile world,  
a web so gently woven,  
we seek today to understand  
the pattern God has chosen.

Peace of the Maker and the Son,  
his love to touch and heal us,  
Peace of the Spirit, to increase  
the bond we have between us.

© Chris Humphries Tune: St Columba

#### Word of God: Psalm 8 – The Message

*GOD, brilliant Lord,  
yours is a household name.  
Nursing infants gurgle choruses about you;  
toddlers shout the songs  
That drown out enemy talk,  
and silence atheist babble.*

*I look up at your macro-skies,  
dark and enormous,  
your handmade sky-jewelry,  
Moon and stars mounted in their settings.*

*Then I look at my micro-self and wonder,  
Why do you bother with us?  
Why take a second look our way?*

*Yet we've so narrowly missed being gods,  
bright with Eden's dawn light.  
You put us in charge of your  
handcrafted world,  
repeated to us your Genesis-charge,  
Made us lords of sheep and cattle,  
even animals out in the wild,  
Birds flying and fish swimming,  
whales singing in the ocean deeps.*

*GOD, brilliant Lord,  
your name echoes around the world. AMEN*

## **Hymn 226 God whose farm is all creation**

### **Reflection 1**

#### **Praise:**

Creation sings! Each plant and tree,  
each bird and beast in harmony;  
the brightest star, the smallest cell,  
God's tender care and glory tell -  
from ocean depths to mountain peaks,  
in praise of God, creation speaks!

Creation speaks a message true,  
reminds us we are creatures, too;  
to serve as stewards is our role,  
despite our dreams of full control -

when we disparage what God owns,  
in turmoil, all creation groans.

Creation groans to see the day  
which ends all bondage, all decay:  
frustrated now, it must await  
the Lord who comes to recreate  
till round the universe there rings  
the song his new creation sings!

*Martin E. Leckebusch © Kevin Mayhew Tune: Melita*

### **Reflection 2**

#### **PRAYER of relinquishment by Richard Foster**

Today, O Lord,  
I yield myself to You.  
May Your will be my delight today.  
May You have perfect sway in me.  
May your love be the  
pattern of my living.  
I surrender to You my hopes,  
my dreams, my ambitions.  
Do with them what You will,  
when You will, as You will.  
I place into Your loving care my family,  
my friends, my future.  
Care for them with a  
care that I can never give.  
I release into Your hands  
my need to control,

my craving for status,  
my fear of obscurity.  
Eradicate the evil, purify the good,  
and establish Your Kingdom on earth.  
For Jesus' sake, AMEN

**Hymn 528 Make me a channel of your peace (The prayer of St Francis)**  
**Prayer for the world**

**Hymn 500 Lord of creation to thee be all praise**

**Blessing**

**Notices**

**Union Barthol Chapel, Tarves, Udney and Pitmedden to form Formartine Parish Church**

All three congregations have now voted unanimously in favour of the Union as of 1 January. The Basis of Union has now been approved by the Presbytery and has been sent to General Assembly Committees as well as OSCR for approval.

**Worship Arrangements**

Barthol Chapel and Tarves will have united morning worship services at Tarves at 10.00am. This service will normally be accessible on Zoom.

**Harvest Thanksgiving 22 October**

This year all donations will be shared around our own parishes of Barthol Chapel and Tarves. There is great need even in our own communities. You can bring any non perishable items, including toiletries, to the church over the coming weeks. This way you can donate little and often. Please ensure items have a long use by date. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

**Please note:**

Tarves Kirk Session will convene before worship at 9.45 in the vestry for the admission of a new member.

**Tarves Tuesday Coffee Mornings** 10.00 – 11.00am. All welcome.

**Tarves Tots** Thursday mornings 9.30-11.00am

**Pastoral Care:** Please contact Susanna Bichard Tel 01651 851345.

**Tarves Kirk Cards/Notelets** are available – bundles of 12 for a suggested donation of £5.00. All proceeds to Youth Hall Refurbishment.