

SERMON NOTES Sunday 29 January

sunnysidechurch

At our All Together service we thought about God's wonderful world. There were different stations exploring:

- Celebrating God's creation on land, air and sea
- How we can care for God's world – this is the [link to the lifestyle survey](#) if you haven't done it yet
- Praying for God's world and particularly those parts of the world badly affected by climate change

Our Bible reading was Psalm 8.

There wasn't a sermon but this is Timothy Keller's reflection on Psalm 8 from his book *My Rock, My Refuge: a year of daily devotions in the psalms*:

'Wonderful care. The universe reveals God's glory. Aren't human beings just specks of dust in this vastness? Physically, yes; yet we fill the mind of God (verse 4). The astonishment of the psalmist should be ours. Why should God care about us? Because he has made us in his image and given us the world he created to care for as his agents. Living with care for the land, sea and air and all who live there, and doing justice for every human being stamped with his image, brings God glory. As a human race we are not doing very well! But Jesus has come, and eventually the world will be under his feet (verse 6; Hebrews 2.5-9) and then everything will be made right.'

Some Questions for Discussion

1. What about God's world are you most thankful for today?
2. Read Psalm 8. What do you notice?
3. How might this psalm inspire you to care for God's world more?
4. What could you do to take better care of God's world? What could we do as a church?
5. Are you aware of parts of the world badly affected by climate change? Why not share what you know with your group?
6. The psalmist speaks of the place of human beings in God's creation. How does this encourage us to work for justice for all people?
7. What is God asking you to do as a result of what he has said to you through this Psalm? It might be something to pray about, something to think more about, something he wants you to talk to someone about or something he wants you to do. Make a note of it so you don't forget!

Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Psalm 8.1 and 8

Why not spend some time praising God for his creation and asking him to help you how care for his world better?

Revd Rebecca Fardell