

Proverbs 3.13,17-18

Blessed are those who find Wisdom,
those who gain understanding...
Her ways are pleasant ways,
and all her paths are peace.
She is a tree of life
to those who take hold of her;
those who hold her fast will be blessed.

Lord, remind me from time to time,
that my relationship with you
is dynamic,
a living thing.

It needs to grow,
to develop,
to push its roots down deeper
into the quietness and depth
of your love for me...
To stretch its branches towards the sun,
to yield its fruit in season,
to withstand the heat of the day.

“Planted by streams of living water”
you say:
Your living water,
that never fails,
always refreshing.

A cooling balm
to my sometimes weary spirit.
Remind me Lord,
and nourish me with your love,
again.... today.
AMEN.

From 'There was a Garden' by Eddie Askew

Mothers' Union Midday Prayers

Howick Hall Arboretum

Planting a Tree for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Green Canopy

Tuesday 2nd August 2022



“It’s a shame we didn’t plant this tree a long time ago,”
said Tiny Dragon. “Imagine how big it would be.”

“We’re doing it now,” said Big Panda.
“That’s the important thing.”

Big Panda and Tiny Dragon by James Norbury

Midday Prayers for Howick Hall Arboretum

Genesis 2.9

The Lord God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Gathering Prayer

Lord of the sea and sky,
the mountains and valleys,
the woodlands and wild places,
the earth we walk and the air we breathe:
Bless our time together today
and bless all that we plant in your name. Amen

From the Platinum Prayer Book

Nature serves to remind us of human life itself.
It serves to remind us of baptism and the life that follows,
in the lakes and tumbling waterfalls.
It serves to remind us of reaching out and never giving up,
as the salmon leaps against the tide with determination and faith.
In the coming of spring we recognise new life, new birth,
a sign of God's enduring faithfulness and forgiveness.
Teach us to learn from your wonderful works. Amen.

Revd. Sheila Auld (St Gabriel's Heaton)

Revelation 22.1-2

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

Prayers of thankfulness....

God of all life, in whom is heaven...
we thank you for the world we live in;
for the Queen's Jubilee Green Canopy,
and for all who safeguard and renew green canopies across the world.
Help us to grow firm roots of faith and trust in you.

God of all places, in whom is freedom...
We thank you for Mothers' Union worldwide,
Bless the projects and ministry of branches everywhere,
that they may bear fruit that sustains and lasts.

God of all relationships, in whom is family...
We thank you for our own lives
And for all those you bring to us.
Show us how to plant seeds of love
which will grow into mighty trees of life
for the healing and transformation of all the nations.

God of all times, in whom is peace,
We thank you for the still and quiet moments
For time to wander and wonder.
Be our silent companion in life's woodland glades
and lead us safely through the turbulence of this life
into the peace of your eternal love.

**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 and ever. Amen.**

**The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore.**