



**Team Parish of Christ the King
St Aidan's Brunton Park
Sunday 3rd March 2025
Eco Service**

The story of Noah and the Ark is one of the most famous in the Bible, but we sometimes miss an important moment in it. We all know how Noah built the Ark, and gathered the animals, and we all know about the rainbow in the end, but we sometimes forget why God put that bow in the sky and what it means. The rainbow is the seal of God's first covenant. He will make four more in Scripture: with Abraham that he will be the father of many nations; with Moses giving the law to govern God's people in the promised land; with David, that a descendant of his would rule on God's throne; and finally through Christ, a new covenant of grace for all people. But this first covenant God makes not only with Noah and his descendants but 'between me [God] and you [Noah] and every living creature of all flesh.'

God's first covenant binds him to all of creation. And he places humanity in a privileged place to care for it as steward. As we look at the world around us, and particularly the ecological crisis we face, perhaps we might ask how we have broken and marred the creation God loves so deeply that he binds himself to it in covenantal love. And perhaps we might ask how God is calling us to change for the sake of 'every living creature of all flesh.'

Genesis 8.13-17, 9.8-17

In the six hundred and first year, in the first month, on the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from the earth; and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and saw that the face of the ground was drying. In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth was dry. Then God said to Noah, 'Go out of the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons' wives with you. Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh—birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth—so that they may abound on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth.'

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 'As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.' God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and

every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.' God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.'

Luke 13.6-9, 18-21

Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

He said therefore, 'What is the kingdom of God like? And to what should I compare it? It is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in the garden; it grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air made nests in its branches.'

And again he said, 'To what should I compare the kingdom of God? It is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with [a] three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

TODAY 9.30am: **Next Before Lent Family Eco Service** Rev'd Gerard Rundell leads as Rev'd Dr Hannah Malcolm preaches

THE WEEK AHEAD

Mon	7.30pm, Zoom: Lent Bible Study
Tues-Fri	8.55am, Church: Morning Prayer
Tues	3.30pm, Church: Family Pancake Party 6.30pm, Church: NCD Youth Event
Wed	10.00am, Church: Ash Wednesday Service 7.30pm, Church: Ash Wednesday Service
Thurs	2.00pm, Community Room: Prayer and Praise 8.00pm, Northern Football Club: Mens Group
Sat	10.00am, Community Room: Saturday Cafe 10.30am, Church: Kids Zone (not 4th Saturday of the month)
Sun	9.30am: Lent 1 Rev'd Gerard Rundell presides and preaches with readings from Deuteronomy 26.1-11; Romans 10.8b-13 & Luke 4.1-13 4.00pm: Team Evensong , St Matthews

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Thurs 13th Mar 2.00pm: **Film Club – The Quiet Girl**, Community Room

LENT LUNCHESES

Wed 12th Mar 12.00pm: **St Aidan's, Brunton Park**

Wed 19th Mar 12.00pm: **Sacred Heart, North Gosforth**

Wed 26th Mar 12.00pm: **St Columba's, Wideopen**

Wed 2nd April 12.00pm: **St John's URC, Wideopen**

Wed 9th April 12.00pm: **St Cuthbert's, Brunswick**

NOTICES - today's service link is <https://bit.ly/StAidan2025EcoFamilyService>

TEAM EVENSONG – will be held at St Matthews on Sunday 9th March at 4pm. Come along and join us for this team service with a choir, psalms and hymns.

YOUTH PANCAKE EVENT – on Tuesday at 6.30pm we have our NCD Youth event, starting with pancakes then games, worship, a biblical reflection then ending with relaxed chatting. Please ask Gerard for further information and to book a place. We're planning lots of fun and lots of pancakes.

NGP COMMUNITY ORCHARD - a fruit tree orchard is being planted at Great Park on Sunday 9th March between 10.30am to 12pm. Please email: cathy.sharp@northwt.org.uk to book a place. Those taking part will meet outside Great Park Community Centre.

PRAYER AND PRAISE – next week we have this lovely, short service at 2pm on Thursday. It is followed by refreshments and time to chat.

LENT LUNCHESES – will begin on Wednesday 12th March, here at St Aidan's. Please join us for our short service and light lunch at 12pm. Full details regarding the Lent Lunches is above.

LENT COURSE – starts tomorrow via Zoom. You can use Zoom Meeting ID: 757 377 8713 Passcode: StAidan or contact Ken who will send you the link via email: kmnewitt@outlook.com Leaflets giving more information are available in the entrance to church.

MAY ECO FEST - CAN YOU GROW SOME SEEDLINGS? - we're very excited to announce that St Aidan's will host our first ever Eco fest on 3rd May, with local businesses and community groups showcasing ways to live sustainably and

look after our environment! We hope to include a fundraising 'Grow Your Own' stall, where people can buy fruit and vegetable seedlings and small plants. Could you grow some seedlings for us to sell? Speak to Rev Hannah or sign up on the sheet at the back of church.

FAMILY PANCAKE PARTY – is on Tuesday between 3.30pm and 5pm. Come along for games, crafts and story, and of course hot pancakes.

Living on God's Good Earth

February 2025: Feed the Birds

Sharing our gardens with birds, hedgehogs, and other animals is a joy. But winter and early spring is a tough time. Like us, other animals need to use lots of energy (or sleep) to survive in the cold, but unlike us, they don't have supermarkets or heaters to rely on. You can help birds and other wildlife get through these tricky months by leaving areas of leaves or branches undisturbed, planting shrubs and trees with wintering berries and fruit, putting out fresh water on frozen days, and putting up bird feeders. If you use permanent feeders, remember to wash them every week or so to prevent disease from spreading.

For Our Prayers: St Aidan's Cycle of Prayer

For the church – Sacred Heart RC and St John's URC. Social committee, welcome team, tea & coffee, flower arrangers – all who make church an inviting place.

For the community – Christian Aid, especially their Middle East appeal, and the Children's Society. Assemblies and presence in local schools: Brunton First, Havannah

For the world – all countries facing hardship and conflict. For our own national and political life

For those in need – Esther Wooler, Martin Seaton, Sue Bates, Sheila Lonie, Christine Crompton, Charlie Bennett, Mavis Bennett, Peter Kenney

For those who have died – and on their anniversaries: Gladys McCardle, Audrey Dickinson, Isabella Fairburn, Muriel Gandy, Brian Flanagan, Emily Walker, Muriel Brown, Frances Wright, Sheila Smith, Edna Stansbie, Dick Race, Jane Hatton, Edith Hindmarsh

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 [St Aidan's Church Brunton Park Newcastle www.staidanschurchurchbruntonpark.co.uk](https://www.staidanschurchurchbruntonpark.co.uk)