

# Resources on the Sunday Readings – Climate Sunday

Picture Reflection (p1), Bible Reading & Study Questions (p2-3)

See separate families' sheet.

## Picture Reflection



### For our time... Mark 10:17-27

*We can imagine Jesus looking around at our world today and using the same words that he used to the rich young man in the gospel story today... 'How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the Kingdom of God!'*

*We live in what is, at the moment, one of the wealthier countries of the world...the consequences of our actions impact on those living in poorer parts of the world.*

*The Covid pandemic has shown how we are all vulnerable and prey to the unexpected....*

- Spend a few minutes with this artist's impression of climate change...how does it make you feel?
- Notice how half of the world is underwater...reflect on what will be the consequences of that throughout the world....

- What do you notice about other aspects of the water and the surrounding air that make it feel inhospitable for life?
- Why will it be important to address the outcomes of the COP Conference in Glasgow in November?
- Reflect on what changes we are prepared to consider in our lives to limit climate change...

Prayer:

*God our creator, as individuals and groups, may we come together in solidarity with others throughout the world to think, pray and act for the future of our world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen*

## Bible Reading & Study Questions

### Psalm 104:1, 14-24

- <sup>1</sup> Bless the Lord, O my soul.  
 O Lord my God, you are very great.  
 You are clothed with honour and majesty,  
<sup>14</sup> You cause the grass to grow for the cattle,  
 and plants for people to use,  
 to bring forth food from the earth,  
<sup>15</sup> and wine to gladden the human heart,  
 oil to make the face shine,  
 and bread to strengthen the human heart.  
<sup>16</sup> The trees of the Lord are watered abundantly,  
 the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.  
<sup>17</sup> In them the birds build their nests;  
 the stork has its home in the fir trees.  
<sup>18</sup> The high mountains are for the wild goats;  
 the rocks are a refuge for the coney.  
<sup>19</sup> You have made the moon to mark the seasons;  
 the sun knows its time for setting.  
<sup>20</sup> You make darkness, and it is night,  
 when all the animals of the forest come creeping out.  
<sup>21</sup> The young lions roar for their prey,  
 seeking their food from God.  
<sup>22</sup> When the sun rises, they withdraw  
 and lie down in their dens.  
<sup>23</sup> People go out to their work  
 and to their labour until the evening.  
<sup>24</sup> O Lord, how manifold are your works!  
 In wisdom you have made them all;  
 the earth is full of your creatures.

This morning, for Climate Sunday, the second reading chosen is the beautiful Psalm 104. With its wide-ranging description of the natural world around us and in particular to the countries and lands in the Middle East.

1. Climate change is often brought about by us changing the natural order of things. What does the Psalm tell us about God's order for nature?
2. What does it tell us about the role of human beings in creation?
3. If you were to re-write the psalm using the flora and fauna around where you live, what would be the things that you would describe?
4. What things might be missing in the environment around us now that would have been included?
5. God's wisdom is the thing that brought all of these things into being. Think how we could use our own wisdom to prevent climate change and to reverse the damage that has already been done.