

## Smethwick Old Church



## Evening Service of the Word

### Welcome

### Opening Acclamation

Beneath the mists of time,  
before the world began,  
beyond our understanding:  
in the beginning...

**God.**

Fathering history,  
mothering creation,  
parenting earth's people  
from the beginning...

**God.**

Expecting the right moment,  
preparing the right way,  
revealing the right person  
for each new beginning...

**God.**

We believe in one God,  
**maker and mover of heaven and earth.**

***Silence...***

## Prayer

Let us pray...

God,  
God the maker,  
maker of colour, sound, texture, quietness,  
and the restless beauty of living things,  
**we bless you.**

God,  
God the maker,  
maker of granite and mustard seed,  
of grey cloud and starlight,  
of earthquake and heartbeat,  
**we bless you.**

God,  
God our maker,  
maker of all that is unseen,  
of all that has been,  
of all that words could never capture,  
**we bless you.**

God,  
God our maker,  
we, the children of your love,  
the creatures of your kindness,  
the guardians of your creation,  
**we bless you.**

**We bless you for your making,  
your trusting,  
your loving,  
your never-ending goodness.  
Amen**

# The Word of God

## Psalm

### Reading from the Old testament

### Reading from the New testament

## Reflection

*Silence...*

## Prayers of concern and thanksgiving

### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, which art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name.  
Thy Kingdom come.  
Thy will be done in earth,  
as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive them that trespass  
against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

## Hymn

### Closing responses

From where we are  
to where you need us,  
**Christ be beside us**

From what we are  
to what you can make with us  
**Christ be before us.**

From the mouthing of generalities  
to making signs of your kingdom,  
**Christ be beneath us.**

Through the streets of this world  
to the gates of heaven,  
**Christ be above us.**

Surround us with your presence,  
inspire us with your purpose,  
confirm us in your love.

**Amen**

**Blessing**