

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021

Genesis 2: 29, 30 *“Then God said, ‘I give you every seed bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground – everything that has breath of life in it – I give every green plant for food.’ And it was so.”*

Psalm 8: 6-8 *“You made him ruler over the works of your hands;*

*you put everything under his feet:*

*all the flocks and herds,*

*and the beasts of the field,*

*the birds of the air,*

*and the fish of the sea,*

*all that swim the paths of the seas.”*

The planet Earth is an amazing creation. We may have different views on how it was created but assuredly it is a work of genius. The complexities and subtleties of its structure, fauna and flora astound us every day. Its ability to provide us with warmth, food and air to breathe seems miraculous.

In Genesis God says I have provided all that is necessary for you to live, prosper and multiply. Now get on with it and look after it. The Psalmist recognises that man is the ruler of God’s providence but with this power comes responsibility. Man needs to look after what he has been given and increasingly he has become irresponsible. Pollution, overconsumption, bad husbandry and inequality of access to food and water have resulted in the earth’s resources being unsustainably depleted.

We are on track to destroy God’s wonderful creation unless we act responsibly, live sustainably and in harmony with one another so that we can read the words of Genesis 1: 31(part) *“God saw all that he had made, and it was good.”* and know that it is so.