

The Benefice Highnam, Tibberton with Rudford and Taynton  
and the Parish of Minsterworth

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2025 – Creationtide 4**

10am	Benefice Holy Communion	Taynton
12.30pm	Baptism of James David and Jacob	Highnam

Bible Readings	Collect
Proverbs 8:1–4, 22–31	Heavenly Lord, you long for the world's salvation: stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess and revive in us new hope that all creation will one day be healed in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Acts 17:22–34	
Matthew 6:19–24	

**Church Diary** – what's on and what to pray for...

Mon	29 <sup>th</sup> Sept.	9am	Morning Prayer on Zoom
Tues	30 <sup>th</sup> Sept.	9am	Collective Worship at Highnam School
		7pm	Joint Benefice PCC meeting at Highnam Old School
Wed	1 <sup>st</sup> Oct.	10am	Highnam School Infants' Harvest Festival at Highnam Church
Thurs	2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct.	4.30pm	Wedding Rehearsal
Sat	4 <sup>th</sup> Oct.	10am	Highnam Churchyard Working Group
		2pm	Wedding of Jennifer and Ramsey at Highnam

**Services Next Sunday – 5<sup>th</sup> October 2025 – Creationtide 5**

10am	Café Church for Creationtide	Highnam School
11am	Holy Communion	Rudford
5pm	Evening Prayer	Minsterworth

**\*\* Highnam Court Open Day 5<sup>th</sup> October- Highnam Church will be open 12-5pm \*\***

**Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31**

Does not wisdom call,

and does not understanding raise her voice?

On the heights, beside the way,

at the crossroads she takes her stand;

beside the gates in front of the town,

at the entrance of the portals she cries out:

‘To you, O people, I call,

and my cry is to all that live.

‘The LORD created me at the beginning of his work,

the first of his acts of long ago.

Ages ago I was set up,

at the first, before the beginning of the earth.

When there were no depths I was brought forth,

when there were no springs abounding with water.

Before the mountains had been shaped,

before the hills, I was brought forth—

when he had not yet made earth and fields,

or the world's first bits of soil.

When he established the heavens, I was there,

when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,

when he made firm the skies above,

when he established the fountains of the deep,

when he assigned to the sea its limit,

so that the waters might not transgress his command,

when he marked out the foundations of the earth,

then I was beside him, like a master worker;

and I was daily his delight,

rejoicing before him always,

rejoicing in his inhabited world

and delighting in the human race.

#### **Acts 17:22–34**

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, ‘Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, “To an unknown god.” What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For “In him we live and move and have our being”; as even some of your own poets have said,

“For we too are his offspring.”

Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.’

When they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some scoffed; but others said, ‘We will hear you again about this.’ At that point Paul left them. But some of them joined him and became believers, including Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris, and others with them.

#### **Matthew 6:19–24**

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

‘The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

‘No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.