

A LITURGY FOR AN ECO CHURCH

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it.
Psalm 24.1

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Gathering

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lord, fill us with the knowledge of your will
that we may bear fruit in every good work.

Colossians 1.9-10

A hymn/song is sung, music is played, or silence is kept, during which the worship space may be 'greened' – with an altar cloth, a lectern fall, changed lighting, projected image, or other green display brought in or revealed

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,
how majestic is your name in all the earth;
you dry up the green tree
and make the dry tree flourish;
in your hand is the life of every living thing
and the breath of every human being;
As your Son made the multitude to sit down on the green grass
and fed them with the bread of life,
make us to lie down in green pastures
and lead us beside still waters;
so that, like a tree planted by water,
which does not fear the heat but whose leaves shall stay green,
we may be refreshed and sustained in you,
and honour the everlasting covenant
you have established with your creation,
for you have seen that it is very good.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God forever.

*Psalm 8.1; Job 12.10; Ezekiel 17.24;
Psalm 24.1; Mark 6.39; Psalm 23.2;
Jeremiah 17.8; Genesis 19.17*

Word

A psalm, reading(s), and/or canticle(s) follow

Act of Eco Commitment

Noah made sacrifice to the Lord God, and the Lord said in his heart
'I will never again curse the ground because of humankind.'
As we offer our own sacrifice of prayer and thanksgiving,
we pledge ourselves to honour the everlasting covenant
between God, the creator of all things who loves the world,
and the creation which responds in joyful praise.

Genesis 8.21

Let us pray.

**Lord God,
the earth is yours and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it;
hear our prayer, accept our service and receive our pledge:**

Psalms 24.1

May our worship honour your generous gifts; may we explore together our responsibilities to the creation of which we are a part, in preaching and teaching, in prayer and praise:
for the earth is yours and all that is in it.

May our *church buildings* be houses of prayer, temples to your glory, and signs of the renewing power of your grace to sustain and refresh all life;
may our use and development of the resources we have inherited be an example of careful nurturing of discipleship and fruitful witness:
for the earth is yours and all that is in it.

May we allow the land we occupy to flourish in your care; may we share and protect both open space and managed earth, and build community with and through the land and all it sustains:
for the earth is yours and all that is in it.

May we live as the body of Christ, fostering relationships within our local and global communities, and raising awareness of how our actions affect our brothers and sisters across the world, having a particular care for the poorest and most vulnerable:
for the earth is yours and all that is in it.

May we show in our lives what we claim in our words, revealing in our discipleship our love for you, for each other, and for your world, following your command to bear fruit that will last:
John 15.17
for the earth is yours and all that is in it.

**Lord God,
we pledge ourselves to your service in caring for your creation,
that your kingdom may grow from the seed of hope
into a tree of righteousness and justice for the world,
and the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay
and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Romans 8.21

Prayers

Prayers of thanksgiving and intercession may follow, ending with

The Collect

O Lord our God, who brought your people into a good land,
and sends showers of blessing that the earth shall yield its increase;
flourish within us your gift of faith
that, in our worship, our churches, our communities, and our lives,
we may honour and renew your creation
and join in obedience with the wind and the waters,
the wilderness and the desert,
the birds of the air and the fish of the sea,
and all created things to give glory and praise
to the image of the invisible God,
the first born of all creation,
Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Amen.

*Deuteronomy 8.7; Ezekiel 34.26; Mark. 4.41;
Isaiah 35.1 Job 12.7; Colossians 1.15*

Filled with awe at the wonders and works of God,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

The service concludes with a blessing or the Grace