

SOUTH WEST CHURCHES CARBON FAST

Worship Resources

These offer a variety of diverse prayers, songs, readings, etc. which can be selected, adapted and used as appropriate during the Lent Carbon Fast 2014.

Please attribute sources where they are indicated.

1. INTRODUCTORY PRAYERS

A Time of Praise and Call

Leader O God who called all life into being

All **The earth, sea and sky are yours**

Leader Your presence is all around us,

All **Every atom is full of your energy**

Leader Your Spirit enlivens all who walk the earth

All **With her we yearn for justice to be done**

Leader For creation to be freed from bondage

All **For the hungry to be fed**

Leader For captives to be released

All **For your Kingdom of peace to come on earth**

Introduction:

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Leader: May God who established the dance of creation,
who marvelled at the lilies of the field,
who transforms chaos to order,
lead us to transform our lives and the Church
to reflect God's glory in creation.

Call to Worship

The whole Earth waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God
Sing to the Lord all the Earth

Opening Prayer

God of forever,
you know our wants and our desires,
and from you nothing is concealed.
May our intentions be honest
and our hearts open to your Spirit,
who inspires and enthuses life,
so that we love you and your purposes for us.
May your sacred name be held up
and reflected in us,
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

2. HYMNS /SONGS

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind,
Forgive our foolish ways;
Reclothe us in our rightful mind,
In purer lives Thy service find,
In deeper reverence, praise.

With that deep hush subduing all
Our words and works that drawn
The tender whisper of Thy call,
As noiseless let Thy blessing fall
As fell Thy manna down.

In simple trust like theirs who heard,
Beside the Syrian sea,
The gracious calling of the Lord,
Let us, like them, without a word,
Rise up and follow Thee.

Drop Thy still dews of quietness,
Till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress,
And let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of Thy peace.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee,
Calm of hills above,
Where Jesus knelt to share with Thee
The silence of eternity,
Interpreted by love!

Breathe through the heats of our desire
Thy coolness and Thy balm;
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
Speak through the earthquake, wind and fire,
O still, small voice of calm.

A Time of Singing

© Pat Bennett

Tune : Sine Nomine the tune to "For all the saints who from their labour rest"

Creator God, abundant life your mark,
You once poured speech into the formless dark
And from those words sprang forth a living spark
Your inspiration - Awoke creation

Throughout this world, in which we live and move,
All that we sense below, around, above
Displays the imprint of your longing love
Its revelation – Throughout creation.

But yet the earth is fractured, frayed and torn,
Poisoned, polluted, ravaged, scarred and worn
Its treasures plundered and its beauties scorned
Our transformation - Of God's creation.

From blight and guilt, we cannot walk away
Our will and actions shape the world today
And ours the greed, insisting on its way,
Whose depredations – Despoil creation.

Come Holy Spirit, challenge mind and heart!
Inspire our living so that we will start
To make those choices which may yet impart
Love's liberation - To your creation.

We pledge to touch all things with holy care
Until your coming Kingdom ends despair
Then all the world will witness and will share
The jubilation - Of healed creation.

Praise with Joy the World's Creator

John L Bell and Graham Maule in *Heaven Shall Not Wait*
Tune: Praise my soul

Praise with joy the world's creator,
God of justice, love and peace;
Source and end of human knowledge,
Force of greatness without cease.
Celebrate the maker's glory,
Power to rescue and release.

Praise the Son who feeds the hungry,
Frees the captive, finds the lost,
Heals the sick, upsets religion,
Fearless both of fate and cost.
Celebrate Christ's constant presence,
Friend and stranger, guest and host.

Praise the Spirit sent among us,
Liberating truth from pride,
Forging bonds where race or gender,
Age or nation dare divide.
Celebrate the Spirit's treasure,
Foolishness none dare deride.

Praise the Maker, Son and Spirit,
One God in community,
Calling Christians to embody,
One-ness and diversity.
Thus the worlds shall yet believe,
When shown Christ's vibrant unity.

The Earth is the Lord's

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

Tune: St Denio

"The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof."
Creation reminds us, O God, of your love.
By grace we are learning, as year leads to year,
We're called to be stewards, your caretakers here.

Your rainforests nurture the world that we share.
Your wetlands give animals shelter and care.
Your coral reefs cradle the life of the sea.
You've shown us, in love, what your good world can be.

Too often, O God, we abuse your good earth.
We fail to remember its beauty and worth.
We take from creation much more than we need,
We threaten your world through indifference and greed.

May we be good stewards of all that you give,
Protecting creation wherever we live.
May we be a church that renews and restores
And lovingly cares for this earth that is yours.

Holy is Your Name

David Haas, based on the Magnificat.

1. My soul is filled with joy
as I sing to God my saviour:
you have looked upon your servant,
you have visited your people.

Refrain

And holy is your name through all generations!
Everlasting is your mercy to the
people you have chosen,
and holy is your name.

2. I am lowly as a child,
but I know from this day forward
that my name will be remembered,
for all will call me blessed.

3. I proclaim the pow'r of God,
you do marvels for your servants;
though you scatter the proud-hearted
and destroy the might of princes.

4. To the hungry you give food,
send the rich away empty.
In your mercy you are mindful
of the people you have chosen.

5. In your love you now fulfil
what you promised to your people.
I will praise you, Lord, my saviour,
everlasting is your mercy.

Hymn:

Creator God, abundant life your mark,
you once poured speech into the formless dark
and from those words sprang forth a living spark:
your inspiration – awoke creation.

Throughout this world, in which we live and move,
all that we sense below, around, above
displays the imprint of your longing love:
its revelation – throughout creation.

But yet the earth is fractured, frayed and torn,
poisoned, polluted, ravaged, scarred and worn.
Its treasures plundered and its beauties scorned:
our transformation – of God's creation.

From blight and guilt, we cannot walk away.
Our will and actions shape the world today
and ours the greed, insisting on its way,
whose depredations – despoil creation.

Come, Holy Spirit, challenge mind and heart!
Inspire our living so that we will start
to make those choices which may yet impart
love's liberation – to your creation.

We pledge to touch all things with holy care
until your coming Kingdom ends despair.
Then all the world will witness and will share
the jubilation – of healed creation.

Hymn

We are not our own. Earth forms us,
human leaves on nature's growing vine,
fruit of many generations,
seeds of life divine.

We are not alone. Earth names us:
past and present, peoples near and far,
family and friends and strangers
show us who we are.

Through a human life God finds us;
dying, living, love is fully known,
and in bread and wine reminds us:
we are not our own.

Therefore let us make thanksgiving,
and with justice, willing and aware,
give to earth, and all things living,
liturgies of care.

Opening Hymn

1. Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the holy One, is here;
come bow before him now
with reverence and fear:
In him no sin is found –
we stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the holy One, is here.
2. Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around;
he burns with holy fire,
with splendour he is crowned:
how awesome is the sight –
our radiant King of light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around.
3. Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place:
he comes to cleanse and heal,
to minister his grace,
No work too hard for him,
in faith receive from him.
Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place.

Hymn

1. Seek ye first the Kingdom of God,
and his righteousness
and all these things shall be added unto you;
allelu, alleluia
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, allelu, alleluia
2. Ask and it shall be given unto you,
seek and ye shall find;
knock, and it shall be opened unto you;
allelu, alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, allelu, alleluia



Offertory Hymn

Words – Martyn Goss

Tune: Thornbury 76 76 D

1. The whole earthly Creation
reflects God's heavenly grace,
since life has now developed
upon this globe in space;
but now our human industry
is threatening all its worth,
with unchecked global warming
one Hope, one Life, one Earth

2. Our scientists and leaders
now recognise this trend.
Unless we change our habits,
our lives themselves might end.
So now they make decisions
to implement our voice,
to shrink our carbon footprint
one God, one World, one Choice

3. The task for all our nations'
to cut back greenhouse gas,
that humankind in future
will not face death and loss;
the targets of our rulers
must demonstrate resolve,
to save our children's children,
one Globe, one God, one Love

4. We call out to our God now
that we united be,
and our destructive lifestyles
be lost to history.
We move ahead together
agreeing a new accord
to limit our emissions
In faith in Christ, our Lord.

3. PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

(Psalm 136)

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
who alone does great wonders,
who by understanding made the heavens,
who spread out the earth on the waters,
who made the great lights,
the sun to rule over the day,
the moon and stars to rule over the night,
O give thanks to the God of heaven,
for his steadfast love endures for ever.

4. COLLECTS

Sanctus: This is the table of communion with the earth on which Christ became
incarnate
Holy God,
you reveal yourself
through the Earth,
through bread and wine
water and flesh.
Glory to you
through all creation!

Carbon Fast Prayer (James Wilson)

Most loving Creator God who has given us
a world full of delights and wonders;
As we prepare with the grace of self-sacrifice
and self discipline for the great festival of Easter
remind us how to treasure these gifts and to use them with care;
So that all may equally share in the earth's bounty
and all creation may be restored to your image
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

5. CONFESSIONS

Litany of Repentance

We have forgotten who we are.
We have alienated ourselves from the unfolding of the cosmos.
We have become estranged from the movements of the earth.
We have turned our backs on the cycles of life.

We have forgotten who we are

We have sought only our own security and failed to attend to those who live in insecurity.
We have exploited simply for our own ends, forgetting the others with whom we share the earth.

We have distorted our knowledge.
We have abused our power.

We have forgotten who we are

Now some lands are barren
And waters are poisoned
And air is polluted.

We have forgotten who we are

Now there are forests dying
And creatures disappearing
And in many lands the humans are despairing.

We have forgotten who we are

We ask forgiveness.
We ask for the gift of remembering.
We ask for the strength to change.

A Time of Confession

"Be content with what you have..." © Joyce Dinham

Creator of the Universe, Lover of all that you make,
We thank you for this marvellous world
Which you have given us for our home.
Help us to show our gratitude
As much by our lives as by our words.
We acknowledge that so often
Our best efforts are tinged with greed,
The desire for more and different things;
And, at our worst we wholly disregard

The needs of others in this world.
Our greed is nothing less than theft
From those who have no power against us –
People, animals and nature's store.
So much we once have done in ignorance;
In these days we have no excuse.
Continue, Lord, to open our eyes
To the enormity of our deeds,
And our hearts to the suffering and despoiling
Which those deeds have caused.
We ask forgiveness, Lord, from you;
From the children, women and men
Whose hurts have come from us;
And from every animal, plant and rock,
The skies above and the good earth itself,
Which nourishes and sustains us all.
By the power of your Spirit
May we change the way we live,
And walk again in your healing ways,
O Creator of the Universe,
And Lover of all that you make.

A Call to Penitence and Reconciliation:

Lord forgive us, for we knew not what we did.

We, the children of God,

Cry aloud to you, Lord our God.

Free us from sin and guilt to be truly your people.

Free us to praise you and live in your way forever.

Forests grew and died, and grew again, while under the Earth a treasure of fuel was laid. Your people grew in skill and curiosity and unearthed the secret carbon heritage of the forests. We tamed fire in our engines to increase our comfort and mobility. We have been tempted to take these benefits to ourselves, to live a life where you could no longer find us.

Lord forgive us, for we knew not what we did.

Creator of all, the hymn of creation has become the cry of the world. Like Adam and Eve in the garden, we hide ourselves in shame. Yet, just as you came to them and asked them lovingly, 'Where are you?', so you come to us today and lovingly ask us, 'Where are you?'

We are here Lord, seeing ourselves as the centre of your world, and blind to the fact that you are the centre of all your creation.

Lord forgive us, for we knew not what we did.

We are here, Lord, destroying in a few years the mighty works of aeons, so that we may be comfortable as we prepare catastrophe. We are here Lord, exposing the poor to a fragile future, threatening the livelihoods of our children, and driving animals and plant life to extinction.

Lord forgive us, for we knew not what we did.

Now we know;

Hear our cry for help to change our ways.

Creator of the mighty trees, the broad oceans, the atmosphere, the earth, and all that lives, forgive us and reconcile us to you. Let us remake this world in the love and compassion of the One who makes all things new, who is the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End.

We, the children of God,

**Cry aloud to you, Lord our God.
Restore, reconcile and re-equip us
to live in harmony with all creation,
and to be signs to each other and to the world
of your kingdom come on Earth.**

All sing:

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart!

God of Compassion, heal us:

Leader: God of history and hope,
we offer to your forgiving love the sins of our common past
A: The arrogance that took another's land.
B: The greed which plundered resources.
C: The national pride which diminished others.

Silence in which to offer the sin in our personal history ...

Leader: O God of compassion,
ALL: Hear our sorrow and heal us.
Leader: God of sacrifice and gift, we offer to your forgiving love
the selfish materialism of our common life:
A: The economic system demanding spending & debt to sustain it.
B: The wasteful use of the gifts of your creation.
C: The desire for more that is never satisfied.

Silence in which to offer the sin of our personal selfishness

Leader: O God of compassion
ALL: Hear our sorrow and heal us.
Leader: God of heaven and earth, we offer to your forgiving love
the damage we are doing to this planet:
A: The atmospheric changes caused by fossil fuels and chemical
fumes.
B: The melting ice of sea and glacier that threatens flood and desert
C: The disappearing species lost through climate change.

Silence in which to offer our personal struggle ...

Leader: O God of compassion,
ALL: Hear our sorrow and heal us.
Leader: The Living God offers us the gifts of love and forgiveness,
renews our hope and inspires our vision.
ALL Thanks be to God. Amen.

Prayer of Confession

Lord, we lay in your hands these symbols of your groaning creation. Forgive us our part in the destruction of your carefully balanced world, our home and community. Help us heal and reconcile your earth.

God be with you
And also with you

We turn our faces to God
We offer our hearts to God

O God, you have searched us out and known that we do not speak up strongly for tomorrow's world, nor pay attention to the voices of those who do. We have failed to see your revelation through the natural world and through one another, and have therefore avoided our responsibility for the Creation and for humankind. We have omitted to understand the cosmic breadth of Christ's power, and we have rejected you by refusing to love life in its fullness.

*We acknowledge our insensitivity to the Creation
We confess our blind apathy and indifference
We reject our unthinking destructiveness
We pray for life in this world to come. Amen.*

Absolution

Heavenly and earthly God,
who forgives all who seek change and hope,
have mercy upon each and every one of us.
May we be pardoned and delivered
of our sins in Creation,
and led into goodness, justice and life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

6. READINGS

A Time of Reflecting Psalm 8:1-9

1 O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.

**2 From the lips of children and infants
you have ordained praise
because of your enemies,
to silence the foe and the avenger.**

3 When I consider your heavens,
the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars,
which you have set in place,

**4 what is man that you are mindful of him,
the son of man that you care for him?**

5 You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings
and crowned him with glory and honor.

**6 You made him ruler over the works of your hands;
you put everything under his feet:**

7 all flocks and herds,
and the beasts of the field,

**8 the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,
all that swim the paths of the seas.**

9 O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Reading: Isaiah 41: 17 - 20

When the poor and needy seek water,
And there is none, and their tongue is parched with thirst,
I the Lord will answer them.
I the God of Israel will not forsake them.
I will open rivers on the bare heights,
And fountains in the midst of the valleys; I will make the wilderness a pool of water,
And the dry land springs of water.
I will put in the wilderness the cedar,
The acacia, the myrtle and the olive,
I will set in the desert the cypress,
The plane and the pine together,
So that all may see and know,
All may consider and understand,
That the hand of the Lord has done this,
The Holy One of Israel has created it.

Invite the response at the end of each section:

We join with the earth and with one another

We join with the earth and with one another
To bring new life to the land,
To restore the waters,
To refresh the air.

We join with the earth and with one another.

To renew the forests,
To care for the plants,
To protect the creatures

We join with the earth and with one another.

To celebrate the seas,
To rejoice in the sunlight,
To sing the song of the stars

We join with the earth and with one another.

To create human community,
To promote justice and peace,
To eradicate poverty and inequality,
To remember the generations yet to come

We join with the earth and with one another.

We join together as many and diverse expressions of one loving mystery, for the healing of
the earth and the renewal of all life. Amen

Contemporary Reading:

“Consider the idea of God emerging from human engagement with the natural world in our day. In photographs taken from space, our home planet looks like a bright blue marble, swirled around with white clouds. Floating against a background of endless black space, it is a precious little spot that alone among all the planets, moons and asteroids we have explored to date, is covered with a membrane of life. Astronauts who have seen this view with their own eyes speak of its power to change their deepest feelings. Saudi Arabian astronaut Sultan bin Salman al-Saud, part of an international crew, recollected: ‘The first day we all pointed to our own countries. The third day we were pointing to our continents. By the fifth day we were all aware of only one Earth.’ Astronaut Rusty Schweigert, who walked on the moon, noted from that vantage point that Earth is so small you can block it out with your thumb. ‘Then you realise’, he mused ‘that on this beautiful warm blue and white circle, is everything that means anything to you’, all of nature and history, birth and love. And then you are changed forever.”

(Quest for the Living God, Elizabeth A Johnson, 2007. P 181)

Bible Readings:

Luke 24:24-35.

Isaiah 24: 4-13/21-22

7. CREDAL STATEMENTS

Affirmation:

Leader: With the whole church

All: We affirm that we are made in God’s image, befriended by Christ, empowered by the Spirit.

Leader: With people everywhere

All: We affirm God’s goodness at the heart of humanity, planted more deeply than all that is wrong.

Leader: With all creation

All: We celebrate the miracle and wonder of life, the unfolding purposes of God, forever at work in ourselves and the world

Creed (Keld B. Hansen)

We believe in God, who creates all things, who embraces all things, who celebrates all things, who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.

We believe in God as the source of all life who baptizes this planet with living water.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one, the malnourished one, the climate refugee, who loves and cares for this world and who suffers with it.

And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life, who came to reconcile and renew this world and everything in it.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God, who moves with God and who moves among and with us today.

We believe in everlasting life in God.

And we believe in the hope that one day God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.

Amen.

8. INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

A time for Praying – Floods of Tears (interactive)

with music from Taize – O Lord Hear my Prayer

with action of lighting tea lights and placing them on the water

Heavenly and earthly God,

May we live our lives according to your reign of peace through

justice:

- **that there may be food and nourishment for all**
- **that we eradicate the chains of debt from others and from ourselves**
- **that we distribute the resources of life fairly and sustainably**
- **and that we reject evil, being not tempted by status or greed,**

But remembering that ultimately all power and energy are yours, now and forever.

Amen.

Gathering

Whoever we are and wherever we come from, we share the reality that this earth is our home. So we come at this moment to remind ourselves of the truth that the ways in which we live within this earth home affect for good or ill the home itself and all that dwells within it.

Open to the moment, therefore, and open to one another we come before the mystery of life.

Intercessions

God of Creation

In the face of global warming

We stand on the edge of many challenges.

We consume the world's resources to favour the few whilst the many and the future look at uncertainty.

May it not be long

before we actively say no to excessive emissions that choke the world in climate vulnerability.

May it not be long
before we decide to change ourselves
rather than the climate.

May it not be long
before we reverse the trends of greed
that lead to despoilation and waste.

May it not be long
before we reject a consumer mentality
that encourages us to buy that which we do
not need and which satisfies us not.

May it not be long
before we turn away from competing unthinkingly with one another,
and hope rather to cooperate and share resources
so that all may live in hope.

May it not be long
before we seek to heal the earth
and let the earth hold us as you will.

May it not be long, Lord. Amen

9. PEACE

We are the Body of Christ,
all parts of an interconnected whole.
Therefore, let us pursue
God's peace with each other
and with the Creation around us.
Peace be with you...

And with us all.

10. SYMBOLISM

Earth – symbol is carried forward and placed

Prayer

O God, you who create the earth and the entire universe, fill us with reverence! You are the ground of our being; you drew us from the earth and call us to live in harmony with all that lives. To earth we shall return in the circle of life which is endless. We honour the earth and commit ourselves to live in right relation with the Planet.

Air – Symbol is carried forward and placed

Prayer

O Spirit of the air, you who breathe where you will, breath of our nostrils and wind in the trees, ever-creating, stirring, moving. Move us, shake us, sweep through us with energy, exhilaration and delight.

Fire – Symbol is carried forward and placed

Prayer

O God of the fire, cleansing, refining, tempering to enduring strength; tongued fire of wisdom and courage, free us to dance and to struggle. Shape the new world you call into being, make us strong and resilient.

Water – Symbol is carried forward and placed

Prayer

O Spirit of the water, source and sustenance of life, waters of the womb and of birth, water of tears and toil, waters teeming with fish and plant; bathe and refresh us, nourish and sustain us, weep and work in us, birth with us a renewal of life.

Globe – Symbol is carried forward and placed

Prayer

God of the Universe, you who bring all life into being, create in us a deeper sense of community with all who share life on this planet earth. May we truly know others as our sisters and brothers; may we seek for all a just share in the resources needed to sustain life; may we value and respect all forms of living being and delight in the beauty and variety which are your gifts.

The Lighting of Candles:

While lighting each others candles we sing:

Send out your light
Lord send your truth
to be my guide.
Then let them lead me
to the place
where you reside

Offering of Local Symbols (may be processed or already on a table)

Voice 1 Sea-water from a South West beach - symbol of rising sea temperatures, polluted, suffering and dying ocean worlds.

Voice 2 Stunted and unripened local fruits/vegetables – symbols of a lack of sunshine, failed crops, human hunger and famine.

Voice 3 Stone from a collapsed South West cliff or river bank – symbol of dangerous water levels, eroded land, flooded fields, destructive weather.

Three symbols of climate change from three areas of our region. There could be a hundred more symbols of ecological imbalance, human struggle and suffering from many other places.

11. EUCHARIST PRAYER (St. Hilda Community)

Today we give thanks for Jesus of Nazareth,
in whom Christians believe that God was especially present,
through whom God was made known to humanity.
On the night that he was betrayed, he feasted with his followers;
he took bread, gave thanks, broke it
and gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Take this and eat it.
This is my body broken for you,

Do this in remembrance of me'.
In the same way, after supper,
he took the cup of wine, gave thanks,
and gave it to them, saying,
'Drink from it all of you.
This is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many.
Do this whenever you drink it
in remembrance of me.'

For all that Jesus of Nazareth means to us.
We give thanks
So today we share bread and wine together
as a sign that that we are one humanity,
as a pledge that we will work for justice,
and a healing of the damage we are bringing to God's world.
This will be a foretaste of that which can be
despite what is and what has been.

May the Spirit that guides us all
be present in this feast,
taking this bread and wine,
the concerns that we have expressed,
the lives that we lead,
and transforming them all
for the unity of all creation
and the service of love.

*God, whose body is all creation,
may we come to know you in all the earth
and feel you in our blood,
So will no part of us, or the world,
be lost to your transforming grace.*

12. CONCLUDING PRAYERS

Blessing:

Bless to us, O God, The earth beneath our feet. Bless to us, O God,
The path whereon we go. Bless to us, O God, The people whom we meet.

Amen

Blessing:

Let us go forth now to care for God's world.
Using energy wisely.
Sharing our knowledge.
Sacrificing where necessary.
Living in harmony with all creation.
Let us go out into all the world as heralds of a new way of living,
and preach the good news to all creation.
And the blessing of God Almighty,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
Be with us all now and always. **Amen.**

Benediction

Bless us to live as you created:

Leader: Bless, O God,

All: Our desire to live sustainably.

Leader: Bless, O God,

All: Our hope for all to see creation's beauty.

Leader: Bless, O God,

All: Our care for the environment

Leader: Bless, O God,

All: The small things we do for your world

Leader: Bless around us, O God,

All: Those who work to benefit your good Earth

Leader: Bless around us, O God

All: Those who find ways to live in harmony with creation.

Leader: Bless us, O God

All: That we may be whole and live as you created us to be.

Sustaining Blessing:

Leader: May the earth sustain your strength,
may Christ sustain your love,
may you sustain one another's joy:
and may you live as a blessing
to God, to the Earth and to humanity. Amen.

Lord's Prayer – Global Warning (Martyn Goss)

*Creator God – maker and shaper of
all that is, seen and unseen;*

*You are in the expanse and depth
of Creation, and in the processes
that make life possible.*

*Yet we are distracted by the gods
we make ourselves and our
lives become fractured and fragmented.*

*In our brokenness we disturb the
Earth's capacity to hold us.*

*Instead we find climate uncertainty
and global injustice.*

Call us back from the brink.

*Help us to choose love not fear,
to change ourselves and not the planet;
to act justly for the sake of the vulnerable;
and to make a difference
today for life tomorrow.*

In your name - Maker, Son and Spirit. Amen

13. CLOSING PRAYERS

Prayer after Communion

God of life and God of light,
as we seek a new relationship with your created order,
may we sense the grace and peace
of a new relationship with you.

*May the air sing with songs of glory,
May the water flash with the silver of creation,
May the forests bloom with leaves
for the healing of nations,
May God's light and love
fill our hearts and souls and minds. Amen.*

Dismissal

God be with you.
And with us all.
Tend the earth,
Care about God's good creation
Bring forth the fruits of justice for all.
May we go in the peace of Christ
Thanks be to God

Sending Out (© Season of Creation)

L Christ calls you to be his disciples,
to serve him with love and compassion,
to serve Earth by caring for creation,
especially that part of the planet
and the climate where we live.

**P We will remember the climate we enjoy!
We will groan when the climate changes!
We will wonder at the ways of the weather!**

L Will you care for creation?

**P We will care for creation!
We will nurture our planet!
We will celebrate with the mysteries of our climate!**

Blessing

L May the Spirit of God, who is above all and in all and through all,
fill you with the knowledge of God's wisdom
permeating nature on this planet
and guiding the course of its climate.

Go in peace!

Serving Christ and loving Earth!

**P We go in peace,
serving Christ and tending Earth.**

14. INCIDENTAL MUSIC

A Time for Receiving God's Forgiveness

Music from Taize – Veni Sancte Spiritus

Veni Sancte Spiritus, tui amoris ignem accende.
Veni Sancte Spiritus, veni Sancte Spiritus.

*(Holy Spirit, come to us, kindle in us the fire of your love.
Holy Spirit, come to us, Hope Spirit, come to us.)*

Gloria (Taize x 2) Gloria, Gloria in Excelsis Deo.
Gloria, Gloria, Alleluia, Alleluia

VISUAL RESOURCES

Video links are suggested elsewhere.

The use of natural resources such as water, stones, flames, leaves, food, plants, soil, and so on as symbols of the generosity of God can greatly enhance worship. Objects such as drought-ridden produce, polluted water, broken branches or mud can also convey a message about human environmental damage and destruction.