



Liturgy for the Season of Creation – Peace with Creation

September 14 – Learn

Opening Sentence - Psalm 96:11-12

Officiant Let the heavens be glad and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar and all that fills it; let the field exult and everything in it. Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy.

Confession

Officiant Let us confess our sins against God and all Creation.

People God of compassion, have mercy upon us. Heal our relationship with all creation. Forgive us for our mistreatment and neglect of the creatures who share the earth with us. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent for what we have done to harm them, and for what we have not done to help them. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may care for one another and for all creatures, according to your will and in the fullness of your love; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant This is the day the Creator has made

People Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Glory to the Source, Wisdom, and Breath of Creation: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Antiphon for Creation

Officiant Creation is speaking: Come let us listen.

Invitatory Psalm for Creation - Psalm 19

Reader #1

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows his handiwork
One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.
Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,
Their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world.

In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

The Lessons

Old Testament: Isaiah 45: 21-24

Reader #2

A reading from Isaiah

Declare and present your case; let them take counsel together!

Who told this long ago? Who declared it of old?

Was it not I, the Lord? There is no other god besides me,

A righteous God and a Savior; there is no one besides me.

Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth!

For I am God, and there is no other.

By myself I have sworn, from my mouth has gone forth in righteousness

A word that shall not return

To me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear.

Only in the Lord, it shall be said of me, are righteousness and strength;

All who were incensed against him shall come to him and be ashamed.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to all God's Creation.

Gospel: John 12:31-36a

Reader #3

The Gospel according to John

Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out.

And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself. He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. The crowd answered him, “

We have heard from the law that the Messiah remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man? Jesus said to them, "The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of the light. After Jesus had said this, he departed and hid from them.

The Word of the Lord. Praise to you Lord Christ.

Canticle - A Greeting for Creation

Reader #4

Greetings in the name of our God who is good: whose love endures forever.

Greetings to you, sun and moon, you stars of the northern sky: give to our God your thanks and praise.

Sunrise and sunset, night and day: give to our God your thanks and praise.

Greetings to you, hills and valleys, rivers and ponds, sea and rain: give to our God your thanks and praise.

Greetings to you, oak and pine, hemlock and birch, tamarack and maple: give to our God your thanks and praise.

Greetings to you, hawks and sparrows, cardinals and robins, bats and blue jays, ravens and crows: give to our God your thanks and praise.

Greetings to you, bears and deer, chipmunks and squirrels, and beaver and bobcats: give to our God your thanks and praise.

Greetings to you, people of all genders, elders and children, indigenous and colonists, diverse cultures of this rainbow land: Nurses and teachers, scientists and artists, cleaners and clerks, students and job-seekers,

All who care, who love, and who pray,

Who laugh and learn, who rest and who play: give to our God your thanks and praise. Amen.

The Creed – Profession of Faith (South Indian)

People

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.

The Prayers

Officiant In God all Creation lives, moves, and has being,
 Indeed we all are God's offspring.
 Therefore let us pray.

The Lord's Prayer

People

Our Creator in heaven

You are also at home in the air, soil, forests and oceans

Hallowed be your name

By the care we take of your Creation

Your kingdom come

All that you see is good

Your will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven

Your will to till and care

Give us this day our daily bread

That all may have enough to live life in fullness

Forgive us our trespasses

Our greed, our exploitation, our lack of concern for other species and for future generations

As we forgive those who trespass against us

By reconciliation with justice and peace.

Lead us not into temptation

The temptation to equate dominion with exploitation

And deliver us from evil

The evil of destroying your gift of creation

For yours is the kingdom

Yours, Lord, not ours

The power and the glory in the cross and resurrection

For ever and ever
You are the beginning and you are the end. Amen. (So be it.)

Suffrage

Officiant

Heal your Creation, O God, and bless your offspring;
Guide and sustain your creatures, now and always.
Day by day your Creation blesses you;
We join our voices to praise your Name for ever.
O God, unite us with all Creation in harmony;
Have compassion on our failings, O God.
O God, show us your love and sustaining power;
For your creatures live and move only in you.
In you, O God, is our hope;
And your Creation shall never hope in vain.

Collect

Officiant

O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature:
Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and remembering the account that we must give one day, grant that we may be faithful stewards of your good gifts; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn

Intercessions - Intercessory Prayers for Creation

Reader #5

Loving God, even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she places her young near your altar.
God, who listens to every living thing,
Help us listen as you do.
Loving God, help us provide refuge to every animal and plant with whom we live.
Help us be attentive to all you have made.
God, in whom all creation subsists,

Help us listen as you do.

Loving God, when Jesus cried out and gave up his Spirit, the earth shook and the rocks split.

You are known by the whole of Creation that listens to you.

God, to whom all creation responds,

Help us respond to you.

Loving God, help us hear and know you just as the earth and rocks do.

Help us to learn from the way in which we see Creation recognize your glorious beauty.

God, to whom all creation responds,

Help us respond to you.

Loving God, you are present in your Creation and seek to heal her wounds.

You can be found walking in the garden. Open our eyes to see you, the gardener.

God, who is present with your Creation,

Help us be present too.

Loving God, we often abandon your creation and cause its wounds.

Help us to follow in your footsteps and learn to walk in the garden like you.

God, who is present with your creation,

Help us be present too.

Loving God, who hears every voice, knows each cry of injustice, and is attentive to the suffering of the earth:

Teach us to listen.

Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may listen to the world you have created and not close ourselves off from it.

Reveal to us the ways in which we have failed to hear your voice in how we treat the earth. God, who listens to every living thing,

Help us listen as you do. Amen.

Concluding Sentence – Ephesians 1:8-10

Officiant

With all wisdom and insight God has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

Amen.