

arce



planetary mess

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

The earth was formless and empty,
darkness was over the surface of the deep,
and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.

God saw that the light was good,
and he separated the light from the darkness.

God called the light “day,”
and the darkness he called “night.”

And there was evening, and there was morning—
the first day.

And God said, “Let there be a vault between the waters to separate water from water.”

So God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it.

And it was so.

God called the vault “sky.”

And there was evening, and there was morning—
the second day.

And God said, “Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear.” And it was so.

God called the dry ground “land,” and the gathered waters he called “seas.” And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, “Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds.” And it was so.

The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

And there was evening, and there was morning—
the third day.

And God said, “Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years, and let them be lights in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth.” And it was so.

God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. God set them in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth, to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good.

And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day.

And God said, “Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the vault of the sky.”

So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living thing with which the water teems and that moves about in it, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth.”

And there was evening, and there was morning—
the fifth day.

And God said, “Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: the livestock, the creatures that move along the ground, and the wild animals, each according to its kind.” And it was so.

God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

So God created mankind in his own image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and
increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over
the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every
living creature that moves on the ground.”

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 in the sky and all the creatures
that move along the ground—everything that has the breath
of life in it—I give every green plant for food.” And it was so.

God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.

By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, when the Lord God made the earth and the heavens.

stations

planetary mass

The planetary mass is our celebration of life and our ritual of celebration and repentance on behalf of our culture.

Here we seek to mourn the destruction of so much life on our planet and to cultivate a compassion that feels in our own flesh the wounds inflicted on others and on our planet and to awaken to the incredible awe and beauty of our existence with God.

Whether humanity has a future or whether it is going to become extinct in the next few centuries depends on our will to live and that means our absolute will for our one indivisible life.

We have got used to death,
at least to the death of other creatures
and other people
and to get used to death is the beginning of freezing
into lifelessness itself.

So the essential thing is to affirm life,
the life of other creatures,
the life of other people,
our own lives.

The Lord is here
His Spirit is with us

Breathe in the Holy Spirit...
Breathe in life
And out fear
In passion
And out numbness
In hope
And out death

the word

Wisdom - let us attend. From the book of Romans:

The creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed.

For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

discuss

How do we feel
about what is happening
at COP26?

confession

Creator God the Source of all life we confess our sin to you.

We confess where we have turned away from you and where in ignorance we have turned our back on the earth and on each other.

We confess that as we have wanted more and more we have dominated and exploited your creation.

And we admit that we are responsible for abusing the riches of our home, that we are complicit in crucifying you by polluting the air and the sea, by destroying the forests, by starving the people of the two-thirds world, and by robbing the future generations of life not yet here, our children and grandchildren.

**God of all creation
we turn away from our addiction
We turn back to you
Our Source and our Hope
We repent and we turn back to you**

communion

This ritual is a symbol of the worship already happening in creation. The whole universe is invited to this intimate event, the feasting on Christ. The church here has no walls - we worship with plants, planets, animals, and angels.

The day before Christ suffered he took bread in sacred hands and looking up to heaven he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying “take eat this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me”.

In the same way after supper he took the cup and gave thanks. He gave it to them saying “drink this all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this to recall me, to remember me.”

**Creator and soul of the cosmos
The universe shines with your life Lord
You're everything we desire.
We give our lives to you**

**You created everything that lives
Through Christ you are the Source
We believe and trust in you**

**Our desire is to let go of death
and give ourselves to the vision of life
your son Jesus believed in to the point of his own death
We commit ourselves to him**

**Spirit of life, integrity and truth who raised our brother
from death and gives us hope beyond death here now
You are our strength and compassion
We believe and trust in you**

God of life we bring wine to the table.
Touch this now to become a life blood transfusion.

Christ our life we bring bread to the table
to become your precious flesh.
In our global village we offer it
in the presence of those who starve.

Eternal source we offer water:
The overwhelming swell of the oceans
unique to this planet.

Creator God we thank you for the gift of soil:
The foundation of the forest, the sign of our mortality

Creator God we offer ourselves
along with these elements of bread and wine
and join with the voice of the whole universe
crying out for life and healing.

Father hear our prayer through Jesus Christ.

Amen

We can no longer see ourselves as separate from nature.

We are all given a chance to participate in the story of the universe.

We're all in it together - people, particles and God.
Through Christ hope is built into the very fabric of space time and matter.

So now there's hope.
Now contains the possibility of resurrection.

So let's come to the table now and let's reconnect with Christ, hope of the cosmos, the power to renew us and change our lives now.

prayer

Let us pray together now for the universal church and the world.

Christ our hope at this critical time lead us into facing our denial. As the church, as a culture wake us up to an awareness of the responsibility and opportunities we now have.

We honour the wisdom gained by centuries of spiritual and artistic endeavour through the experience of our mystics and the lives and deaths of all our saints.

We pray for an open church that celebrates the coming together of all faith and wisdom traditions, the sciences and the arts.

We pray for a new time of hope, mystery and promise as we bring all these riches to bear on our global crisis.

God the Mother and Father of all creation
we pray that a new way of living emerges out of the present
reductionist system
that's robbed the world of its spirit and turned human beings
into objects and nature into a machine.

We pray for a culture that allows us to live in harmony
with all creation and stops crippling the earth's diversity.

We pray that your Spirit of passionate life
that raised Christ from the dead
bursts now into all people in our earth community.

Creator God we pray that we will wake up
to a new consciousness.

the soil

by david benjamin blower

blessing

Treat the earth well.

It was not given to us by our parents,
it was loaned to us by our children

So walk softly upon the earth

May its beauty surround you

May its wisdom delight you

May its music invite you

Rejoice in creation

Listen to the pain of the voiceless

Water the barren earth

Plant seeds in the wasteland

And act as if our hope in the future is irresistible.

Amen

the mess has ended
go in peace

arce