



A Creation Inclusive Liturgy for Holy Communion in an ecumenical setting.

*****DRAFT APRIL 2024**

Introduction, intimations, notices.

Including arrangements for those who choose not to receive elements
etc

Opening (words from Job 12, Luke 21)

Just ask the animals,
and they will teach you...

birds in the sky,
and they will tell you;

Speak to the Earth,
they will instruct you,

let the fish in the sea inform you.
And look to all the trees, for:
**Which of all these does not know
that to God belong wisdom and power.**

Song 1

Prayer of Approach and Confession

God, Life's Sustainer :
in the mystery of love;

God, known in Jesus
ruling by serving;

God the Empowering:
freeing your people.
We bless you today,
God the Three.

Dear God, deepen our kinship,
face to face with Creation!

Truly, the majesty of the mountains
and the intricacy of the rock-pool
build up our awe and wonder
to join with all creatures
and sing out your praise!

How then, faced with such beauty and mystery
do we still fashion gods in *our* image?

We have called you "endless" - so worshipped endless growth.
-as if the Earth were single-use.

We have called you "powerful" - so bowed down before corporations
who still plan the end of the life we have known.

We have drowned out the voices of partners in your covenant:
human and otherwise.

We proclaim good news to the rich
whilst stones scream in face of our silence.

And when, finally, we acknowledge *human* responsibility
still we ensure that the poorest and most vulnerable be hit hardest:
by rising seas; by failing crops and water;

by transition without justice.

We have planned small steps
which should have been first steps.
but stopped there.

-Preaching that crisis was distant.
-Lusting for control and perfection,
even as we crucify the earth.

Whew.

All this truth could get us down!
but this ground is holy
and we *are* welcome:

Forgiven, before we have put things right
by Jesus who says: "do not worry about tomorrow -
you're up to your eyes in it today!"

Just. Change.
and God will be with you
with courage, faith, and cheerfulness
through hard paths that do lie ahead
and saints like Columba, like Brigid, like Patrick, like Francis,
and those, unknown, with whom we pray.

Silence

KYRIE [Sung]

Or

**Lord have mercy,
Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy.**

Declaration of Forgiveness

God of Good Earth, by the Breath of life, in Christ,
- Father Son and Spirit -
Show us our place and purpose
set free to heal
let it be so: AMEN

Introduction to reading

As the rain comes down to water the Earth,
Listen for God's Word,
through reading of Scripture
with the help of the Spirit, AMEN

Reading (s):

Song 2:

REFLECTION:

Song 3:

A Creation- inclusive statement of Christian faith

We trust Love who is God
before us, beyond us
and urgently now.

Maker, Remaker of life, and life's limits.

God: working with Earth,
God: attending to birth;
decisive, co-operative,
with seas and with skies.

God for justice by choice.
to be praised by all breathing....

We trust Jesus our Friend
Incarnate in Earth;
Who lives life with creatures
who knows of their frailness

through flesh, blood, and birth
and dependence on care.

Christ who loves, heals, and warns
and repurposes Scriptures;
Christ who honours
the welcome of God in the stranger,
God's wisdom in creatures, our kin.

Jesus: Welcomed with branches,
then nailed to the Tree.
Abandoned to Death:
Earth alone could receive him.

The third Day Christ rose
to Life Renewed:
and is with us as surely as Sky;

We trust God the Spirit
Wild Wind of beginnings
beyond our control
and yet harnessed for justice;
Reshaping perceptions.
Breath of life;
Spirit of healing and forgiveness:
God with us urgently now.

Prayers of Concern
[appropriate for the day]

Offering

We continue our worship in the giving of our offering

CELEBRANT:

All that we have and all that we are
Is from God, and given for the Good of the Earth.
So here we return a token of such wealth
asking that all that passes through our hands
be used to God's glory
Blessed be God forever

Narrative/invitation

As *human* beings we gather round this table
as others, at God's calling
flock, shoal or swarm....

Drawn together to receive whom we are:
to be more than our communities,
or even our churches,
can be alone.

Like the Earth,
we do not own Christ's table;
and like our common home,
it's 'ours' only when we share.

Yet here, we're welcome:
like those friends Christ first gathered.

Welcome for justice; fulfilment and love.

Welcome, with prophets and publicans
with eco-warriors and dodgy characters
with those you'd expect
and those you'd rather weren't here.

Welcome to celebrate
being a work of God repurposed
as friends of Jesus refreshed by bread and wine
through human hands,
from Earth's own self
on whom, *and* whom,
we feed.

=====

Sursum Corda [these or other words]

God be with you and in you
And also with you

Lift up your hearts
We lift them up to God

Give thanks to the Lord our God
It is right to give our thanks and praise

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Eucharistic Prayer

Throughout all ages,
as mountains dance and trees applaud
the cries of birth are also loud
for all to hear and tend.

Your Sabbath and Jubilee made space
for all Creation's refreshment.
But we made exceptions.

Your People sought milk and honey,
yet injustice laid lands waste.

Your prophets: priests and farmers
call us to account.

Yet your loving signs of warning
fall often by the wayside.

And greed and pride
inspire harmful choices
knowingly embraced.

Yet still comes Christ Jesus,
friend of wildlife,
beloved of the poor
scolding the seas
teaching with trees,
and God's wildness in Wind,

With Christ we shoulder the cross of healing;
we shudder at the disaster
of truth denied by power,

And yet...

Risen and present through food and faith
Christ calls us afresh
to care for a damaged world.

SANCTUS

*****[Sung , or these words spoken]**

**Holy holy holy
God of power shared
Sky and soil's abundant glory:
Hosanna: help us God!
Hosanna: heal Creation!**

Blessing of Bread & Wine

God, Sustainer,
gusting and fluttering life
with the good things of the Earth:
food and drink we *offer*;
flesh and blood we *are*.

As Jesus did, so do we:

We break this bread (bread is broken)
We share this wine (cup is raised)
We trust that

**Christ who died is
Christ who rose
And Christ who comes again**

Agnus Dei

As John said, seeing Christ:

[Sung or these words spoken]

**Lamb of God, you take away what truly harms the Earth;
Show compassion: Send your peace**

The gifts of God
that make you God's people

THE COMMUNION

THE PEACE

Prayer

God-with-Earth,
invited and fed at your table
we are remade, repurposed.

May this food empower us
to cherish your Creation
who we also are.

[And whether our cares be light or heavy,
our song be strong or weak,
keep our hearts warm,
our hands open,
our lives ever embracing
and embraced by your love
Amen]

BLESSING as pg 34 in Iona Abbey Worship Book

May the everlasting God shield you
wherever you go

And the blessing of God be upon you
the blessing of the Giver of life
The blessing of God be upon you
the blessing of the Christ of love
The blessing of God be upon you
the blessing of the Spirit of peace

The blessing of the Trinity be upon you
now and evermore.

AMEN

Closing song.



Offered for devotional use and local adaptation.
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