

The Theatre of God's Glory: Resources for Christian Worship that is Grounded in Creation



Worship

Why

Where

When

How



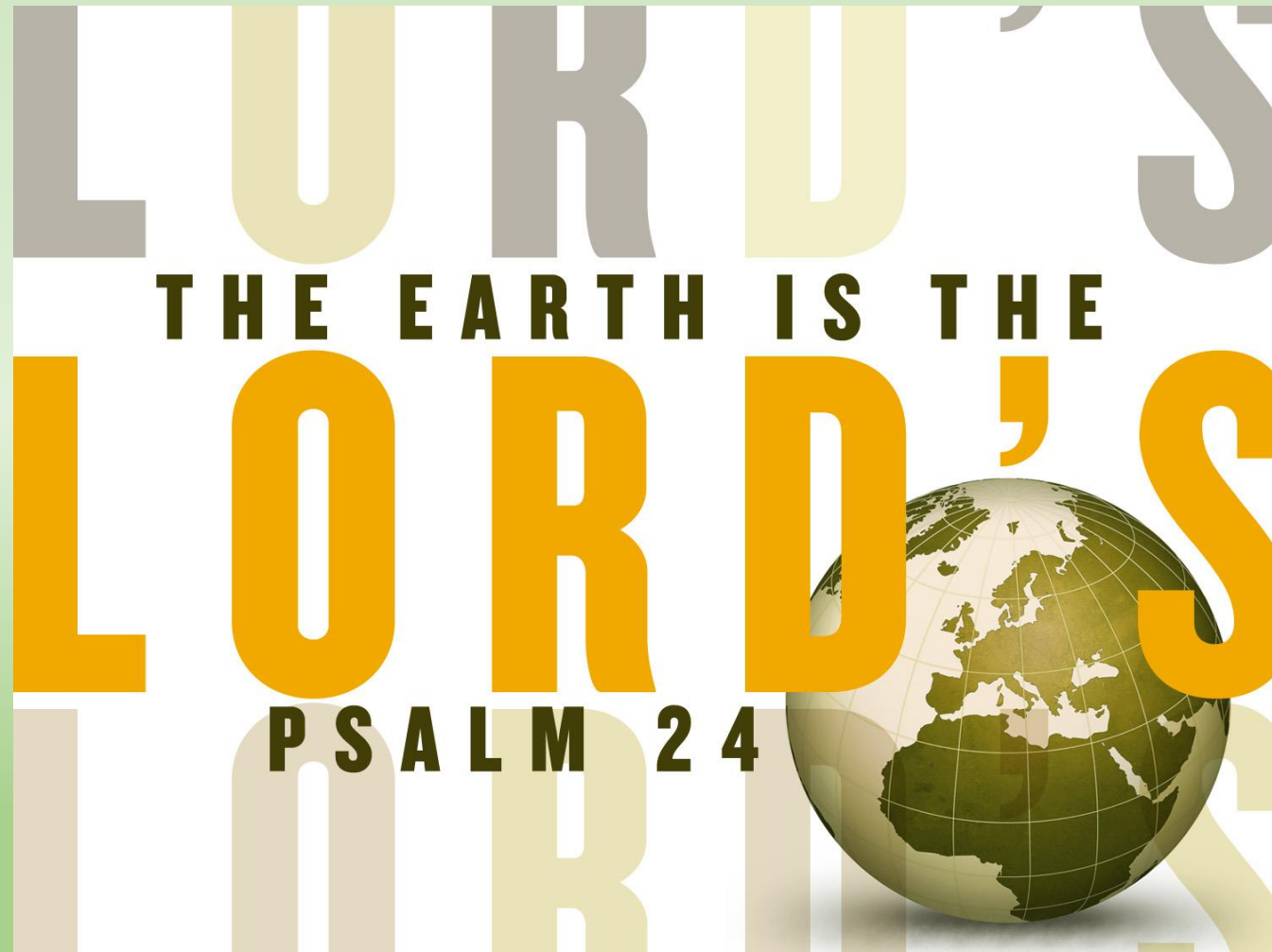
Why?

Why have worship that is grounded
in creation?



Theatre of God's Glory

Because it is God's world ...



Theatre of God's Glory

Because God loves it ...



Are not two sparrows sold for a penny?
Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. Matthew 10: 29



Theatre of God's Glory

Loves it so much ...



For God so loved the WORLD that he gave his only Son ... John 3: 16



Theatre of God's Glory

Because we are grateful ...



O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever! Psalm 118: 1



Theatre of God's Glory

Because we love God ...



You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul,
and with all your mind, and with all your strength ... Mark 12: 30



Theatre of God's Glory

And our neighbour ...



Jesus says, “You shall love your neighbour as yourself” Mark 12: 31



Theatre of God's Glory

Because we are all part of it ...



Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises. Psalm 98: 4



Theatre of God's Glory

In many forms of worship ...



Theatre of God's Glory



Let us not be ashamed to take pious delight in the works of God,
open and manifest in this beautiful theatre ... John Calvin



Theatre of God's Glory



Let us accept the grace of Christ's Resurrection! Let us be renewed by God's mercy, let us be loved by Jesus, let us enable the power of his love to transform our lives too; and let us become agents of this mercy, channels through which God can water the earth, protect all Creation and make justice and peace flourish. Pope Francis



We are worshipping God,
not creation itself.



We should be modest about our contribution

Certainly human praise to God means more to God than the clatter of hail on tin roofs or the clapping of musically inclined leaves of the aspen trees!
Perhaps, but not as much as human beings would like to think.

Eric Fretheim



Worship – WHEN?

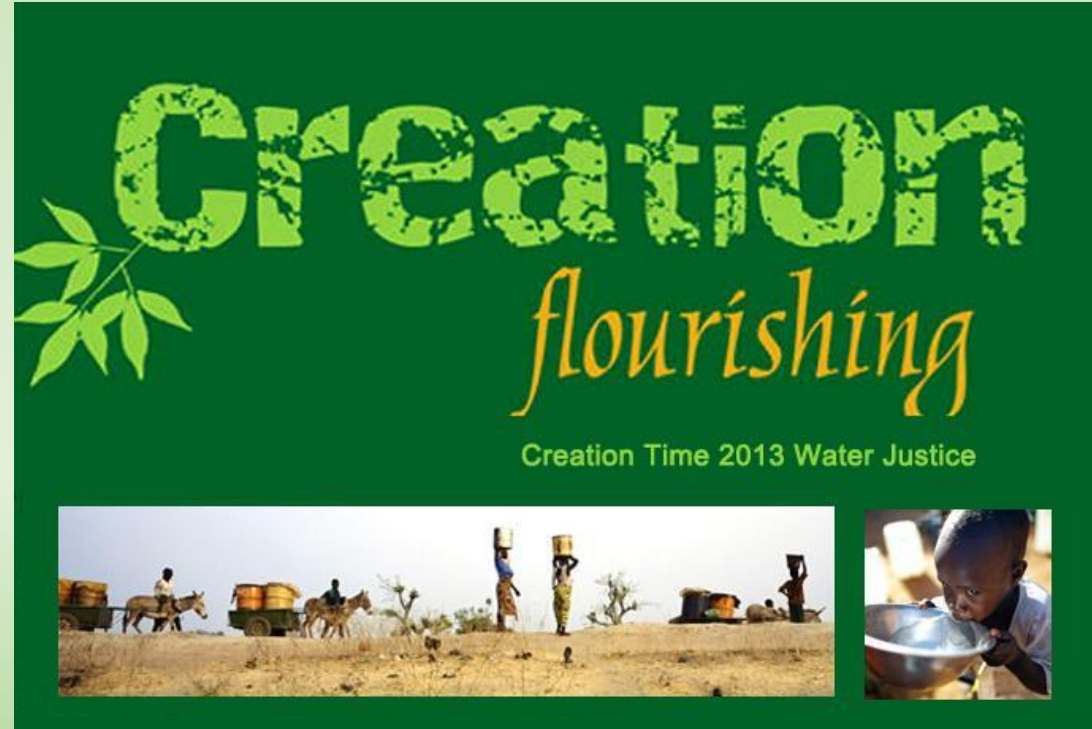


Theatre of God's Glory

When – special occasions



When – seasons



Creation Time – Harvest - Advent and Christmas - Lent
Christian Aid Week - Fair trade Sunday



Theatre of God's Glory

When – on every occasion



Worship – WHERE?



Theatre of God's Glory

Where – indoors and outdoors



Worship – HOW?

- Praying
- Singing
- Preaching
- At the table



Praying

- Approach
- Praise and adoration
- Thanksgiving and intercessions
- The Lord's Prayer



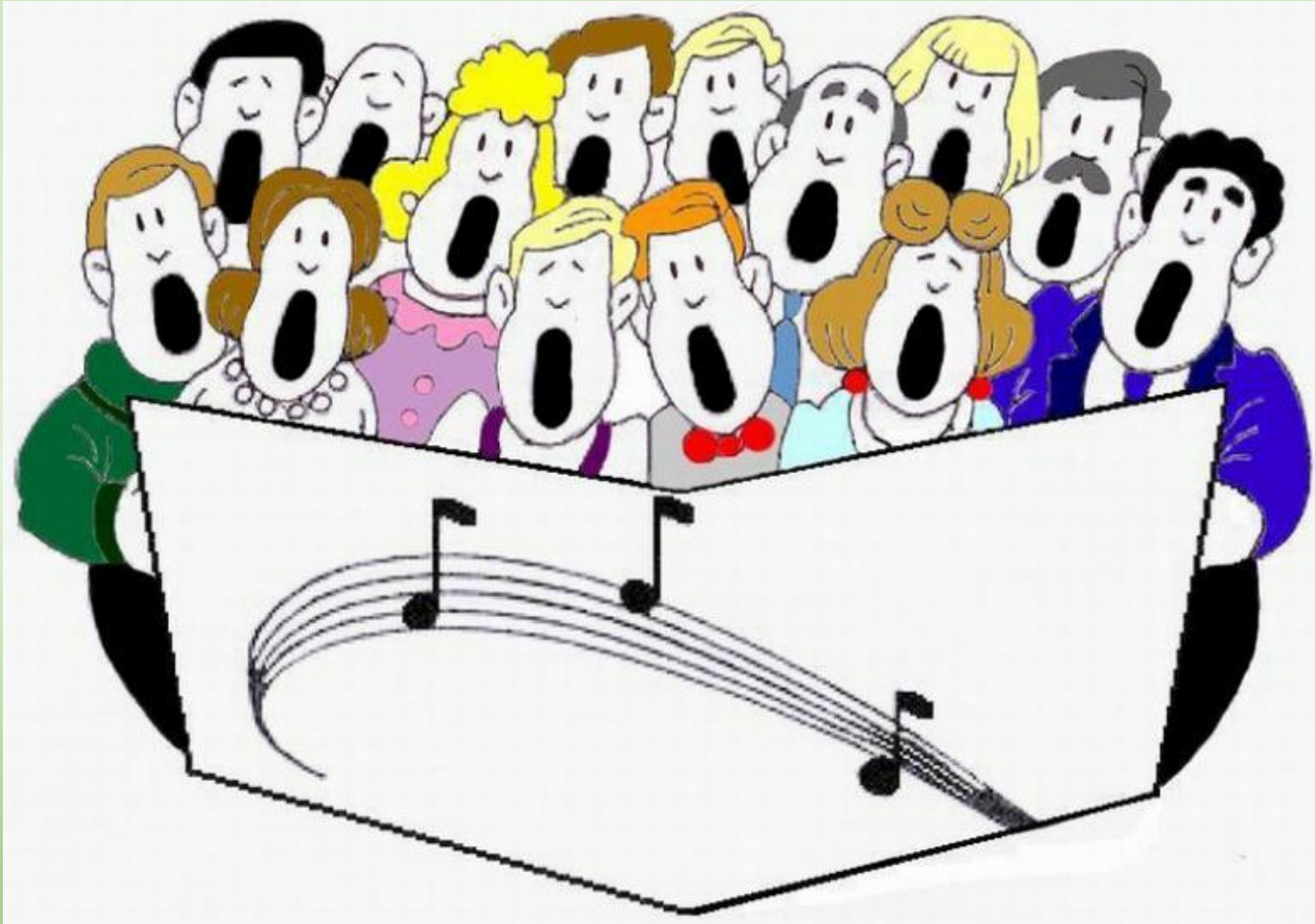
Generous God

HEAR OUR PRAYER



Theatre of God's Glory

Singing ...



Hymn books - Internet



Theatre of God's Glory

At the dawn of your creation, God, you spoke, "Let there be light!"
You divided earth from heaven, you created day and night.
You made sunbeams dance with shadows, you created energy!
Peaceful evenings, bright tomorrows, all began with "Let there be..."



By your word, you formed creation: dry land, water, ocean breeze.
Soon there burst forth vegetation — plants with fruit, majestic trees.
Rain and snow and changing seasons, creatures filling land and sea
God, your very good creation all began with "Let there be..."



When you made us as your children, sending us throughout your lands,
You commanded, "Have dominion — care for earth; it's in your hands."
Yet we hurt this world you've given; we harm earth and sky and sea.
We forget it's your creation — you, who once said "Let there be..."



Theatre of God's Glory

At this joyful celebration, may we hear your word anew:
May we care for your creation, knowing it's a trust from you.
Just as daily there's a dawning, bringing light to all we see,
So we daily hear your calling — you, who once said, "Let there be..."

Biblical References: Genesis 1-2; Psalms 8; Romans 8:18-25

Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824 ("Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee")

Text: Copyright © 2008 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.

Email: bcgillette@comcast.net New Hymns: www.carolynshymns.com/



Theatre of God's Glory

Preaching



Preaching

- Favoured texts
Romans 8, Colossians 1, Genesis 1 and 2, Psalms
- Or following the lectionary



Preaching from a green perspective

- John 3: 16 – WORLD
- Mark 12 – Love the Lord your God ...



The lectionary this Sunday

- Acts 2: 22-32 – ‘of that all of us are witnesses’
- Psalm 16 – ‘you show me the path of life’
- 1 Peter 1: 3-9 – ‘the salvation of your souls’
- John 20: 19-31 – ‘unless I see the marks of the nails’



Theatre of God's Glory

At the table



At the table

- The elements
- The liturgy



Theatre of God's Glory

Worship

Why

Where

When

How



And finally ...

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord!

Psalm 150: 6



