



## **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**

=====

## **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.  
Writer: Rev DJM Coleman, EcoChaplain, EcoCongregation Scotland.

Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) regulated by the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR), Scottish Charity number: SC041287

Find out more at: <https://www.ecocongregationscotland.org>

Visit us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ecocongregationscotland>

Follow us on Twitter: <https://www.twitter.com/ecocongregation>

Subscribe to our newsletter: <https://www.ecocongregationscotland.org/contact-details/email-mailing-lists/>

Please support our work with a donation: <https://www.ecocongregationscotland.org/contact-details/one-off-donation-2/>