



AN EARTH LITURGY
EBENEZER METHODIST CHURCH, ST. GEORGE'S, BERMUDA
WORSHIP FOR CONNECTING THE DOTS.....
FAITH..... AND THE ENVIRONMENT #3
July 9, 2008

Call to Worship:

All humankind is one vast family,
this world, our home.

**We sleep beneath one roof,
the starry sky.**

We warm ourselves before one hearth,
the blazing sun.

Upon one soil we stand,
and breathe one air,
and drink one water,
and walk the night

beneath one luminescent moon.

The children of one God are we,
brothers and sisters of one blood,
members in one worldwide family of God.

Come, let us worship God. (CGP 21F004)

HYMN: VU 303 "For beauty of prairies" tune St. Denio (Immortal, invisible)

Prayers of Confession and Commitment

Creator God, you breathe your being into all creation,
and set us in a garden of wonder and delight.

Today you call us: "Where are you; what have you done?"

silent prayer for creation

We hide in utter shame, for we are naked before you.

We violate the earth and plunder it.

We seek to own what is not ours, but yours.

Forgive us, Creator God, and reconcile us to your creation.

O God of love, you ask that we share the gifts of creation
with all your peoples, of varying cultures, races, colours.
Today you ask us: "Where is your brother, your sister?"

silent prayer for others

We hide ourselves in shame and fear.
Poverty, hunger, hatred, and war rule the earth.
Refugees, all who are oppressed,
and all who are voiceless cry out to you.
Forgive us, God of love,
and reconcile us to yourself and to one another.

Teach us, God of love,
that the earth and its fullness is yours,
the world and those who dwell in it.
Call us to safeguard the gift of life,
Remembering that small things count, as Jesus said,
Cups of water, crumbs of bread, grains of yeast, and tiny seeds.
Call us to commit ourselves to working as co-creators with you,
To the glory and honour of all that you have made. Amen. (CGP 21I004 adapted)

Scripture reading: Matthew 13.13. 31-33

Refreshments, Presentation, and Discussion-Alternative Energy by director of
Greenrock, a Bermuda environmental advocacy and action group.

A prayer:

Creator and Sustainer of all that is,
with the touch of your hand you turned chaos into order,
darkness into light.

Unknown energies you hid in the heart of matter.

**From you burst forth the splendour of the sun
and the mild radiance of the moon.**

Stars and planets without number you set in ordered movement.

**You are the source of the fire's heat and the wind's might,
of the water's coolness and the earth's stability.**

Deep and wonderful are the mysteries of your creation.

For these awesome acts we praise you and thank you.

**Grant us wisdom, we pray, as we seek to harness
the energies of the earth for the well being of all
whose home is on this sacred planet**

and within this holy universe. Amen. (CGP 21O004 adapted)

Lord's Prayer (*a paraphrase*):

**Eternal Spirit, earth-maker, pain-bearer, life-giver,
source of all that is and all that shall be.**

Father and Mother of us all,

Loving God, in whom is heaven:

**The hallowing of your name echo
through the universe!**

**The way of your justice be followed
by peoples of the world!**

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom

Sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need today, feed us.

**In the hurts we absorb from one another,
forgive us.**

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen!

(VU 916)

Sending Forth:

Be a gardener for creation.

Dig, toil, and sweat, and turn the earth upside down,
seek the deepness,
and water the plants in time.

Continue this labour, and make sweet floods to run,
and noble and abundant fruits to spring.

Then take this food, drink, and beauty,
and carry it to God as your true worship.

[Julian of Norwich (CGP21Y003)]

Benediction:

May the blessing of God,
who causes the land to put forth plants and trees;
and of Christ,

who calls all creation to new life;

and of the Holy Spirit,

whose breath animates the earth and all its inhabitants, be with you all. Amen.

(CGP 21X002)