



AN EARTH LITURGY

EBENEZER METHODIST CHURCH, ST. GEORGE'S, BERMUDA

WORSHIP FOR CONNECTING THE DOTS.....

FAITH..... AND THE ENVIRONMENT #2

JUNE 25, 2008

Call to Worship:

God created the sun, moon and stars,

And our hearts sing out in thanksgiving.

God created the lakes, rivers and oceans,

And our hearts sing out in thanksgiving.

God created the hills, mountains and valleys,

And our hearts sing out in thanksgiving.

God created the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and the animals that walk the earth,

And our hearts sing out in thanksgiving.

God's hand continues to create and recreate, revealing God's handiwork in places earlier unseen,

And our hearts continue to sing out in thanksgiving.

God calls us into the creative process, inviting us into partnership, opening to us the possibilities of life.

We believe in God who has created and is creating!

Therefore, let us celebrate together and learn to live with respect in creation.

HYMN: This is God's wondrous world.

Scripture: Proverbs 8. 22-32

A Prayer For the Care of Creation:

O God, the only source of life and energy and wealth, defend our planet earth.

Teach us to conserve and not to squander the riches of nature, to use aright

the heritage of former generations, and to plan for the welfare of our

children's children. Renew our wonder, awaken our concern, and make us

better stewards and more careful tenants of the world you lend us as our

home. Hear us, O God, our creator and redeemer, in the name of Christ.

Amen! (VU 311)

**Refreshments, Presentation, and Discussion-Creating a Climate for Change,
presented by a marine biologist active in Bermuda.**

A Litany:

Holy Spirit, giver of life, creative breath of God through whom this world was
breathed into existence and is sustained,

**Blow through the parched earth of our existence, and breathe Your Life
into our lives.**

Spirit of truth and wisdom through ages past and present who guides God's people
into all truth,

**Blow through the parched earth of our knowledge, and breathe your
Truth into our lives.**

Holy Spirit, counsellor, sent by God; convicting, comforting, guiding and
reassuring

**Blow through the parched earth of our faith, and breathe peace, love
and reassurance into our lives.**

Holy Spirit, enabler of your servants and prophets through the ages, Source of
authority, wisdom and power

**Blow through the parched earth of our lives and breathe into them
Your Spirit's power**

Holy Spirit, indwelling presence of God, empowering the lives of the apostles at
Pentecost and the Church today,

**Blow through the parched earth of our witness, and empower our lives
so that we may help create a climate of change for the well being of all
the earth.**

The Lord's Prayer (*a paraphrase*):

(VU 916)

**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!

Commissioning

Not in the high chambers of the mighty, but in the hidden catacombs;
Not in the corridors of power, But in the crannies of powerlessness;
 is the church called to be and to live, to work and to struggle.
Though the cause of evil may, at times, prosper,
 may we continue to dream and work together, and not grow weary ...
And the God of the downtrodden, the suffering servant,
and the quickening fire of the Holy Spirit
go before us and with us,
 to strengthen, empower and sustain us,
 now and in the hours of struggle and testing,
 'til one day, we shall overcome!

Benediction:

May God who creates you give you light;
 May God who sustains you make you wise;
 May God who protects you give you joy;
 May God who surrounds you give you peace.
 May the blessing of God rest upon you this night and always. **Amen**