

# **Worship Resources on Caring for the Earth**

# Catholic

#### **Catholic Climate Covenant**

Suggested prayers, liturgy and worship resources. <a href="http://catholicclimatecovenant.org/resources/">http://catholicclimatecovenant.org/resources/</a>

#### St. Francis Day

Liturgies and blessings of the animals: http://www.textweek.com/festivals/francis.htm

### Celtic

In the Celtic tradition, God is understood as speaking through two books: the Bible and creation.

# **Episcopal Ecological Network**

Service bulletins for Celtic Eucharist services from various Episcopal churches. http://eenonline.org/reflect/liturgy.htm

# J. Philip Newell

The Book of Creation: An Introduction to Celtic Spirituality; Sounds of the Eternal: A Celtic Psalter; Celtic Benediction: Morning and Night Prayer: Celtic Prayers from Iona: The Heart of Celtic Spirituality. Available on Amazon.com.

#### Wild Goose Publications

The publishing house of the Iona Community established in the Celtic Christian tradition of St Columba, they carry books and digital downloads on Celtic theology and liturgical practice of caring for creation in faith communities. One title is *Iona Abbey Worship Book* which includes complete services. Free downloadable samples from some books.

http://www.ionabooks.com/Care-for-Creation.html

# **Ecumenical**

# **Earthministry**

Contains all sorts of ecumenical resources, liturgical materials, and studies to help churches educate their members to become involved in caring for the earth.

http://earthministry.org/about

#### **Let all Creation Praise**

A collection of liturgical and worship materials on special services, hymns, sermons, incorporating creation care elements into every service, etc.

http://www.letallcreationpraise.org/united-states-ecumenical

# **The National Council of Churches**

The Eco-Justice website has many free resources including Earth Day Sunday resources adapted for several specific denominations. Sacred Spaces and an Abundant Life: Worship Spaces as Stewardship has a commissioning ceremony for your environmental stewardship committee. Sermons, hymns, and more. http://nccecojustice.org/

# St. Francis Day

Liturgies and blessings of the animals:

http://www.textweek.com/festivals/francis.htm

#### **Season of Creation**

Liturgical and children's materials, Bible studies, and other resources for the month of September. http://seasonofcreation.com/

#### **Web of Creation**

Liturgies, preaching, services (Earth Day, Blessing of the Animals, Ash Wednesday, Tree Planting, Garden Blessing, Covenant with Creation, etc.), devotions, worship space.

http://www.webofcreation.org/worship/237-resources

### **The World Council of Churches**

Many liturgical resources for *A Time for Creation*:

http://www.oikoumene.org/en/events-sections/countdown-to-climate-justice/time-for-creation.html

# **Episcopal**

#### The Bible and Ecology

Scripture lessons, exegesis, and sermon preparation on the themes of each of the three-year creation season cycle.

http://www.bibleandecology.org/

#### The Episcopal Ecological Network (EpEN)

Various liturgical resources. Although they appear to be dated for 2008, the lectionary readings now match 2011. Additional liturgies are found at the bottom of the page.

http://eenonline.org/reflect/liturgy.htm

### Let all Creation Praise

A collection of liturgical and worship materials on special services, hymns, sermons, incorporating creation care elements into every service.

http://www.letallcreationpraise.org/united-states-ecumenical

# Minnesota Episcopal Environmental Stewardship Commission

Special forms of worship highlighting creation and environmental themes, as well as sermon preparation reflections.

http://www.env-steward.com/worship.htm

A chart to help choose hymns from several different hymnals. Also see the environmental reflections based on the lectionary readings.

http://www.env-steward.com/worship/hymns.htm

#### A Season of Creation

The program from the Church of South Africa published in 2008. This is an entire book to download which includes Eucharistic prayers and a lectionary for the season. Six sections follow: each includes a different Eucharistic liturgy, background information to assist with the preparation of sermons and prayers, small group study material, and finally an appendix with further resource materials. (note: large download!) <a href="http://acen.anglicancommunion.org/resources/docs/season\_of\_creation.pdf">http://acen.anglicancommunion.org/resources/docs/season\_of\_creation.pdf</a>

# St. Francis Day Liturgies and blessings of the animals:

http://www.textweek.com/festivals/francis.htm

# **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

### **Creation: Called to Freedom**

During the summer of 1991 the Luther Park Bible Camp of Cheteck, Wisconsin focused on care of the earth with campers. On Sunday mornings, staff members presented a worship service called "Creation: Called to Freedom" to congregations in the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin. This service could be adapted for the locale and situation

http://www.webofcreation.org/worship/304-creation-called-to-freedom-

#### **Let all Creation Praise**

A collection of liturgical and worship materials on special services, hymns, sermons, incorporating creation care elements into every service.

http://www.letallcreationpraise.org/united-states-ecumenical

#### Living Earth, a Lenten Journey

Lenten worship resource that can be adapted to other times of the year.

http://www.elca.org/Our-Faith-In-Action/Justice/Advocacy/Issues/Environment-and-Energy/Environmental-Worship-Resources.aspx

#### **Lutherans Restoring Creation**

Contains all kinds of resources for churches. One of the newest resources is lectionary-based care for creation sermon reflections.

http://www.lutheransrestoringcreation.org/Home/congregations/worship

# **Interfaith**

# **Interfaith Power & Light**

The national organization of which Iowa IPL is an affiliate. Prayers, poetry and other worship resources. <a href="http://interfaithpowerandlight.org/clergy-corner/prayers-poetry-and-other-worship-resources/">http://interfaithpowerandlight.org/clergy-corner/prayers-poetry-and-other-worship-resources/</a>

#### GreenFaith

Eco-themed worship services, suggested basic outline of components of a creation care worship service. http://greenfaith.org/

# Jewish

### Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life

Search resources in right hand box, under "Jewish Life and Programs." http://coejl.org/

#### **Jewcology**

For the global Jewish environmental community. Enter "worship resources" in the search box for many ideas. http://www.jewcology.com/resources

#### Let the Earth Teach You Torah

This book explores the place of humankind in nature by examining the relevancy of scripture to the modern environmental crisis. In a sample chapter from the book, a text study, questions for reflection, and suggested activities help guide readers through the practice of reciting brachot or "blessings." <a href="http://ellenbernstein.org/shomrei-lettheearthteach-sample.htm">http://ellenbernstein.org/shomrei-lettheearthteach-sample.htm</a>

# **National Religious Partnership for the Environment**

Suggestions on ways to incorporate caring the earth into traditional religious holiday services. http://www.nrpe.org/jewish-statements-activities/worship

### Muslim

#### **Eco-Islam Newsletters**

http://www.ifees.org.uk/

#### **Green Deen**

Book by Ibrahim Abdul-Matin, which focuses on what Islam teaches about protecting the planet. http://www.greendeenbook.com/index.html

# Presbyterian

#### Frame Memorial Presbyterian Church

Pastor Susan Zencka from Stevens Point, Wisconsin celebrates six Sundays in the Season of Creation. Here are some of the resources--liturgy and sermon in each file--from past worship services. <a href="http://www.letallcreationpraise.org/frame-memorial-presbyterian-church">http://www.letallcreationpraise.org/frame-memorial-presbyterian-church</a>

# **Palm Branches**

Ecologically sustainable palm branches for Palm Sunday. <a href="http://www.pcusa.org/palms/order.htm">http://www.pcusa.org/palms/order.htm</a>

# **Presbyterians Restoring Creation**

Offers devotional material for Advent and Lent, bulletin inserts, and scripture passages and hymns from the Presbyterian hymnal which have to do with caring for creation. http://www.prcweb.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=resources&fuse=resources

### **Worship in Celebration of Creation**

A service in recognition of Earth Day from McCormick Theological Seminary. http://www.webofcreation.org/worship/305-worship-in-celebration-of-creation-

# **Unitarian**

# **Green Sanctuary**

Earth Day blog Ideas of what congregations have done for Earth Day. <a href="http://greensanctuary.blogs.uua.org/category/worship-celebration/">http://greensanctuary.blogs.uua.org/category/worship-celebration/</a>

### **UU Ministry for the Earth**

List of sermons regarding the earth and spirit (PDF).

http://uuministryforearth.org/earth\_spirituality\_sermons

**Worship Web** 

http://www.uua.org/worship/holidays/index.shtml

# **United Church of Christ**

# **Environmental Ministries**

Worship and renewal resources include hymns, sermons, prayer and confession. Also, task force statements are available in PDF form.

http://www.ucc.org/environmental-ministries/worship-renewal.html

# **United Methodist**

### **Board of Church and Society**

The *Resource Tools* tab yields PDF documents which can be helpful for education and worship. For example, the "Faith & Facts" sheet (found in the *Resource Tools* of Global Warming) lists some Bible passages, cites principles and resolutions of the United Methodist church, provides scientific information, and includes some practical steps for people to take.

http://www.umc-gbcs.org/site/c.frLJK2PKLqF/b.2808983/