



CORNWALL CHURCHES ENVIRONMENT GROUP
In Solidarity with the BIG ONE event in London

***A CREATION-FOCUSED
ACT OF WORSHIP:
“No Faith in Fossil Fuels”***

**HIGH CROSS, TRURO CATHEDRAL
FRIDAY 21 APRIL AT 12.00 noon**

**CORNWALL
CHURCHES
ENVIRONMENT
GROUP**

<https://www.ctcinfohub.org/cornwall-churches-environment-group/>

Welcome and Introduction

Hymn:

**All creatures of our God and king,
lift up your voice and with us sing
Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Bright burning sun with golden beam,
soft shining moon with silver gleam,
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Swift rushing wind so wild and strong,
white clouds that sail in heaven along,
O praise him, alleluia!**

**New rising dawn in praise rejoice,
you lights of evening find a voice;
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**People and nations, take your part,
love and forgive with all your heart;
Alleluia, alleluia!**

**All who long pain and sorrow bear,
trust God and cast on him your care;
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Let all things their creator bless
and worship him in lowliness,
Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three-in-One,
O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

after Francis of Assisi, W. H. Draper

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Genesis Rhyme Reading – *please join in the words in bold:*

Rewind, back to the beginning,
no birds tweeting, no earth spinning.
Formless, nothing, 'til the day
God's Word and Spirit combined to say:

“Light!”

**And there was light.
It was a good light,
it was from God.**

Somehow there was water, but it had no limits,
so God had to set some boundaries within it.
Once evening and morning had sailed on by
he divided heaven and earth with the cry:

“Sky!”

**And there was sky.
It was a good sky,
it was from God.**

Then God reached out his creative hand
to pull back the sea, revealing land.
He wanted to see diverse vegetation
food and colour for every generation:

“Plants!”

**And there were plants.
They were good plants,
they were from God.**

Now God wanted rhythms, days and nights,
seasons and patterns, shadows and lights.
So he set the stars and the moon in place
and he called with joy and delight on his face:

“Sun!”

**And there was a Sun.
It was a good Sun,
it was from God.**

God looked at the waters and looked at the sky,
he imagined sea creatures and things that fly,
all shades of colour, both huge and small,
and each appeared as he smiled and called:

“Fish and birds!”

**And there were fish and birds.
They were good fish and good birds
they were from God.**

As he turned to land, God saw in his mind
creatures and critters of every kind,

tame and friendly, wild and wondrous,
at his voice there appeared in abundance:

“Animals!”

**And there were animals.
They were good animals,
they were from God.**

God the Trinity said “we need people like us,
male and female, united in love,
reflecting our nature, caring for earth,”
so with one word God brought to birth:

“Humans!”

**And there were humans.
They were good humans,
they were from God.**

All God made, it was very, very good.
There were trees for shelter and plants for food.
The gift of creation with enough to share,
God blessed that day, and with a whisper declared:

“Rest.”

**And there was rest.
It was a very good rest,
it was from God.**

Talk

Prayer:

Our world is calling out to us. Our sisters and brothers call to us in their need,
and so does the whole of creation.

We stand before our God in need of forgiveness, in need of courage, in need
of prophetic voices.

And so we raise our voices to God in prayerful song.

Song:

**If the fields are parched
and the trees are felled
will the rocks cry aloud on their own?
If the birds are starved
and the beasts are killed
will the bones in the dust lift a song?**

**Have mercy, Lord,
have mercy, Lord.
Forgive our broken ways.
Have mercy, Lord,
have mercy, Lord.
Renew the world you made**

**As the oceans rise
and the wells run dry
do we care if disaster is near?
If our children starve
will they cry to God?
Will they curse us for closing our ears?**

**Still a day will come
when the Lord returns
and the earth will be perfect again
No more greed or war,
no more tooth and claw,
for the wolf and the lamb will be friends.**

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Prayer of Lament - moving into silence

Lord, we lament as we see the damage we have done to your world.
Help us not to close our eyes or look away.

All sing the refrain from "If the fields are parched" (the previous song):

**Have mercy, Lord,
have mercy, Lord.
Forgive our broken ways.
Have mercy, Lord,
have mercy, Lord.
Renew the world you made**

Help us, Lord, to open our ears.
To listen to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.
To hear the call to repent.

**Have mercy, Lord,
have mercy, Lord.
Forgive our broken ways.**

**Have mercy, Lord,
have mercy, Lord.
Renew the world you made**

Help us, Lord, to open our hearts.
To be changed by your love and forgiveness.
To be renewed by your promise of life for all.

**Have mercy, Lord,
have mercy, Lord.
Forgive our broken ways.
Have mercy, Lord,
have mercy, Lord.
Renew the world you made**

In a moment of silence, we pray for forgiveness and renewal.

Silence

In the silence, God is at work, reconciling and renewing creation.
As we move again into song, we recognise that we are called to speak as God
would have us speak.
So we ask for strength, for inspiration, for the courage to pray, and to act in
accordance with our prayers.
In Jesus' name.
Amen

Song: *to the tune of "My song is love unknown"*

**O God of boundless hope,
we need your Spirit's power;
creation's crisis deepens with
each passing hour.
So make us strong
to speak your word,
and make it heard,
and right what's wrong.**

**Too many suffer now
from fire and wind and rain,
as livelihoods and homes are lost
and hope seems vain.
Will we ignore
all those who strive**

**just to survive,
and close our door?**

**The world is changing fast
and warming year by year;
a tipping point is close,
the time to act is here.
We'll work and pray;
as nature bleeds
we'll sow the seeds
of hope today.**

**Together we will walk
the new way you reveal;
our planet cries from wounds
that love alone can heal.
Inspire us, Lord,
to give and care,
that all may share
your earth restored.**

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Talk

Prayers

Hymn: *Sung to the tune of "What a friend we have in Jesus"*

**God, the maker of the heavens,
and the planet that we share,
show us how to live, like Jesus,
lives of gratitude and care.
Make us mindful of the footprints
from the lives that we pursue.
Make us partners in your mission:
you are making all things new.**

**God, the gardener of Eden,
teach us how to tend this earth,
learning from the changing seasons,
times of fallow and new birth.
Lord have mercy when we're careless,
rich resources we misuse.**

**Use our hands to heal creation:
you are making all things new.**

**God of labour and vocation,
Lord of science, trade and art,
take our efforts and our passions
make them mirrors of your heart.**

**Every habitat and creature
loved and valued, God, by you.
May our lives reveal your Kingdom:
you are making all things new.**

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Blessing

Hymn:

**Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed**

**Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come
This grace that brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home**

**When we've been here ten thousand years
Bright, shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun**

**Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see**

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