



Iona Community Creation Liturgy with St Luke's West Holloway

Sunday 23 April 11am

The Faith Hub at The Big One

Opening Responses

Leader The world belongs to God,
All **the earth and all its people.**

Leader How good and how lovely it is
All **to live together in unity.**

Leader Love and faith come together,
All **justice and peace join hands.**

Leader If God's disciples keep silent,
All **these stones would shout aloud.**

Leader Open our lips, O God
All **and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.**

Song - Oh, the life of the world

Oh the life of the world is a joy and a treasure,
unfolding in beauty the green-growing tree,
the changing of seasons in mountain and valley
the stars and the bright restless sea.

Oh the life of the world is a fountain of goodness
overflowing in labour and passion and pain,
in the sound of the city and the silence of wisdom,
in the birth of a child once again.

Oh the life of the world is the source of our healing.
It rises in laughter and wells up in song;
it springs from the care of the poor and the broken
and refreshes where justice is strong.

So give thanks for the life and give love to the Maker
and rejoice in the gift of the bright risen Son.
And walk in the peace and power of the Spirit
till the days of our living are done.

Open our Hearts

Before the God who loves us with great compassion

All **we come with our sorrows.**

For the damage to this planet,

All **we are weeping, creator God.**

For the unequal consequences for the poor,

All **we are weeping, shepherding God.**

For the denials and fears within us,

All **we are weeping, holy God.**

Loving God, take away the fears
that freeze us and give us the courage
to live out your compassionate justice.

All

Amen.

Creator God,
we offer to your love
all denial of climate change
and its consequences:
deaf to the cries of the poor;
blind to the troubling damage to creation.

Lead us into your truth.
Heal the fear that binds us.
Open our eyes to see,
our ears to hear
and our hearts to respond,
for your love's sake.
Amen.

Song / Chant - Bless the Lord, my soul

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless his holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul; he rescues me from death.
Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless his holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul; he leads me into life.

Psalm 8

O Lord our God,
How glorious is your name in all the earth;
your majesty is praised above the heavens.

All

**On the lips of children and babies
you have found praise
to foil your enemy,
to silence the foe and the rebel.**

When I look at the heavens,
the work of your hands,
at the moon and stars which you arranged,
what are human beings
that you should remember them,
mere mortals
that you should care for them?

London

**You have made them in your own image,
and crowned them with glory and honour;**

Not London

**you have given them responsibility
for your handwork,**

and out all things under their care

Leader all of them, sheep and cattle,
yes, even the savage beasts,
birds of the air and fish
that make their way through the waters.

All **O Lord, our God,
how glorious is your name
in all the earth!**

Song / Chant - The peace of the earth

The peace of the earth be with you, the peace of the heavens too;
the peace of the rivers be with you, the peace of the oceans too.
Deep peace, falling over you. God's peace, growing in you.

Prayer for God's World

We all sing a chant 'O Lord hear my prayer' as response

Let us pray for God's world.
That its beauty may be preserved,
its variety retained,
its integrity respected,

All

**O Lord, hear my prayer,
O Lord, hear my prayer;
when I call answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer,
O Lord, hear my prayer;
come and listen to me.**

That pollution and cruel exploitation might cease
so that rivers can clap their hands,
waste places burst into flower,
valleys laugh and sing,
wild life live in safety,
and all as you intended,

All

O Lord hear my prayer etc.

That the children of tomorrow
may not need a museum to show them
the wonders of nature today,

All

O Lord hear my prayer etc.

That the poorest nations of the world
may not harvest their fields
only to fill foreign tables,

All

O Lord hear my prayer etc.

That Christ who pointed to the birds,
the flowers, the corn, the sunset,
might not find their beauty lacking
were he to return.

All **O Lord hear my prayer etc.**

Hear us, Creator of all;
convert the hearts of those who ravage the earth,
and strengthen the resolve of those who respect it.
And since the earth is your gift to us,
prevent us from destroying by thoughtlessness
that which is not ours to own.

All **Amen.**

Song / Chant - We shall overcome

We shall overcome, we shall overcome,
We shall overcome someday;
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,
We shall overcome someday.

We'll walk hand in hand, we'll walk hand in hand,
We'll walk hand in hand someday;
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,
We'll walk hand in hand someday.

We are not afraid, we are not afraid,
We are not afraid today;
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,
We are not afraid today.

We shall live in peace, we shall live in peace,
We shall live in peace someday;
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,
We shall live in peace someday.

We shall overcome, we shall overcome,
We shall overcome someday;
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,
We shall overcome someday.

Closing Responses

Bless to us, O God,
All **the moon that is above us,**
the earth that is beneath us,
the friends who are around us,
your image deep within us,
the day which is before us. Amen

Liturgy adapted from The Wee Worship Book, fifth incarnation, © WGRG/Iona Community

'The Life of the World' words © Kathy Galloway

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