



## Part 1: Introduction

Good morning. My name is \_\_\_\_\_. We are here today to put our faith in action because we believe climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time. We believe our faith calls us to respond boldly and compassionately to those who are suffering from the crisis. We are here to lift up the victims of the climate crisis in prayer, and to ask our evangelical leaders to join us in prayer and then to turn those prayers into action.

## Part 2: Liturgy

*\*People respond with bolded text*

*Call to Worship (Ps. 24:1)*

Liturgist 1: The Lord be with you

**People: And also with you**

Liturgist 1: The Earth is the Lord's, and everything in it.

**People: The world, and those who live in it.**

*Opening Psalm of Adoration (Ps. 8)*

<sup>1</sup> LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
**You have set your glory in the heavens.**

<sup>2</sup> Through the praise of children and infants

**you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.**

<sup>3</sup> When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

<sup>4</sup> **what is humanity that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?**

<sup>5</sup> You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor.

<sup>6</sup> **You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet:**

<sup>7</sup> all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild,

<sup>8</sup> the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.

<sup>9</sup> **LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!**

This is the word of God, for us, the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Song of Praise: He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*

*\*Words for all songs are printed on page 6*

Liturgist 2: All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In your kindness and love, you have given humanity rule and stewardship over your creation, to live as your image-bearers in a world you created for your delight. But we have turned from your will, often abusing Creation for greedy and selfish purposes. Now we are facing global climate disruption as a result of our rebellion. Forgive us of our sins, and the sins of our society, which have increasingly degraded what you created for good. In your kindness, lead us to repentance. Create in us a clean heart. For the glory of your name and for the benefit of all humanity and Creation.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Redeemer God, you sent your only Son to die and rise again, that all creation might be set free from its bondage to decay and all things might be made new in Christ. We confess that we have kept your good news to ourselves and failed to speak and live its truth for all your creatures. You delight in creation, its colour and diversity; Yet we have misused the earth and plundered its resources for our own selfish ends. Lord have mercy.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth. Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light. We thank you for being with us each day. Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace.”

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Amen.

*Song of Response: This is My Father’s World*

*Litany of Climate Suffering*

Liturgist 3: For the millions of animals dead, the 25 people killed, and millions of acres of land burned from the Australian bushfires, we grieve.

**Lord have mercy.**

For the 97 people and 6 firefighters killed last year fighting the deadliest wildfires ever recorded in California, we grieve.

**Lord have mercy.**

For the 65 million displaced people who have fled their homelands and become climate migrants because of violence, humans rights abuse, and environmental disasters intensified by climate crisis, we pray.

**Lord have mercy.**

For our brothers and sisters in Uganda and Kenya and other parts of sub-Saharan Africa whose livelihoods are in danger due to extended drought and flooding on their farms from climate change, we repent.

**Lord have mercy.**

For the people and habitats affected by typhoons in the Philippines, which have intensified by 50% in the last 40 years, we pray for your protection.

**Lord have mercy.**

For black neighborhoods in US cities suffering higher rates of pollution and alarming rates of cancer and asthma, we grieve and repent for our indifference

**Lord have mercy.**

For island countries like Kiribati (pronounced *KEER-ee-bahsh*), the Marshall Islands, Tuvalu, and other small island nations who are at risk of going completely underwater in the next 50 years due to sea level rise, we grieve and repent for our shortsightedness.

**Lord have mercy.**

For those who suffered from the bomb cyclone in the Midwest and extensive flooding in Nebraska and Iowa last year, we pray.

**Lord have mercy.**

For our brothers and sisters who live in Syria and Yemen, where unprecedented drought periods are destabilizing their sense of security and peace, we pray.

**Lord have mercy.**

For communities in India who are slipping into food insecurity and malnutrition because of unstable planting and harvesting seasons from flash floods, we pray.

**Lord have mercy.**

For the black and brown communities who were most adversely affected and are still recovering from the devastating Hurricane Katrina and similarly intensified hurricanes all across the US, we pray.

**Lord have mercy.**

For the countless species of marine life which are under threat from warming oceans, we pray.

**Lord have mercy.**

We ask your forgiveness for the ways we have abused our freedom, through what we have done and what we have left undone. We bring our lament and our longing for a renewed earth to you now. We ask that you would make our grief holy in your eyes.

*Silent Vigil for Climate Victims*

Liturgist 3: We will now observe silent vigil for all those suffering the effects of climate change as a result of our indifference and inaction.

*Extended silent vigil*

### *Commitments and Call to Action*

Liturgist 4: So in your strength now, God, we declare:

Enough climate change: help us to take responsibility. Give us the wisdom to live appropriately, the urgency to act, and the courage to make changes. Give us the voice to call for change from our leaders, and the perseverance to keep asking.

Enough consumerism: give us what we need, God our provider. Then help us to find satisfaction and contentment. Help us to be grateful and generous.

Enough inequality: nobody should be left behind. You care for the poor, and we want to follow your example. Make your church a living example of beloved community, and a powerful advocate for justice and sharing. We thank you for your kindness and your mercy.

For the fierce love with which you hold us and the rest of your creation, we declare:

**Our world belongs to God.**

For the manifold ways that Creation reveals your glory and draws us closer to you, we declare

**Our world belongs to God.**

Amidst its present groaning, we declare:

**Our world belongs to God.**

To our church leaders, proclaiming your gospel across this nation, we declare:

**Our world belongs to God.**

May our leaders be motivated by compassion, and not by fear. May their goal be justice, peace, and the full flourishing of your kingdom.

For the sake of the people and the ministries of your Church across the globe already being affected by the climate crisis, may we seek consensus over controversy; action over apathy.

For the sake of our children and grandchildren, we confess our complicity in creation's degradation, recommit ourselves to our earthkeeping task, and gratefully declare

**Our world belongs to God.**

### *Closing*

Liturgist 5: Thank you for joining us in prayer for the victims of the climate crisis. Go now, in peace, to love and serve the Triune God and all that God has created, ever seeking justice for the oppressed and acting with gentleness and compassion toward all God's creatures.

**Amen**

*Song of Sending: Doxology*

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*He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*

He's got the whole world in His hands (x4)

He's got the earth and the sky in His hands (x3)  
He's got the whole world in His hands

He's got you and me, brother, in His hands  
He's got you and me, sister, in His hands  
He's got you and me, brother, in His hands  
He's got the whole world in His hands

*This is My Father's World*

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears  
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought  
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world. O let me ne'er forget  
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world: the battle is not done:  
Jesus Who died shall be satisfied, And earth and Heav'n be one.

*Doxology*

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow  
Praise God all creatures here below  
Praise God above ye heavenly host  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost  
Amen