

The earth gives life and purpose for communities; their identity is closely related to the earth.

The idea of a nurturing 'earth' (read: universe) is a very important one in almost every human culture. The earth gives life and purpose for communities; their identity is closely related to the earth.

For many Pacific communities, the earth and sea are part of their prophetic life. There is no future without the existence of the earth and sea. The very critical issue of climate change is in the heart of Pacific communities.



Abaiang Island villagers stand in the sea where their homes used to be.

Photo: Justin McManus SMH

Across Asia, the realities of poverty make stark how the abusive use of earth's resources and scandalous pollution have hurt the earth.

For many communities in African countries living off a barren land, the idea of a single grain giving life is so important.



Earth Mother

Photo: sojo.net

This very unique earth with its limitations and abundance has been the source of life to many generations – and now the earth faces a critical point because of the damage that has been done by human greed and madness.

For too many people across the Middle East, the Promised Land is now a place of persecution and violence. The land is laid waste and millions are running and escaping from the violence created by human sinfulness.

Caring and nurturing the earth is a holy calling from the Creator/God to all humanity. It is the responsibility of all faith communities and cultures, and for every community, because the earth gives life and purpose for all humanity without distinction.

*Climate change is not just about danger,
but also opportunity.
It offers a new platform upon which
a new way of living
can be envisioned and articulated.*

Passing the Peace

A New Creed

(from the United Church of Canada)

We are not alone,
we live in God's world.

We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.



Adapted by Peta Anne Molloy pbvm Queensland
from resources prepared by Uniting Church Australia

World Environment Day



www.pinterest.com

We who have lost our sense and our senses - our touch,
our smell, our vision of who we are;
we who frantically force and press all things,
without rest for body or spirit,
hurting our earth and injuring ourselves:
we call a halt.

We want to rest.

We need to rest and allow the earth to rest.
We need to reflect and to rediscover the mystery that
lives in us, that is the ground of every unique
expression of life, the source of fascination that calls all
things to communion.

We declare a Sabbath, a space of quiet,
for simply being and letting be,
for recovering the great forgotten truths,
for learning how to live again.

Augustinian Secretariat for Justice and Peace
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