



MULTI-FAITH EARTH DAY SERVICE

Responding Faithfully to the Climate Crisis

SUNDAY APRIL 19, 2020, AT 2PM EST

Co-sponsored by Washington National Cathedral and Interfaith Power and Light

OPENING WELCOME

Rev. Melanie Mullen & Joelle Novey

THANKSGIVING FOR THE LAND

Gabrielle Tayac & Jansikwe Medina-Tayac (Piscataway)

We've got the whole world in our hands (*sung together*)
performed by Imani-Grace Cooper & Victor Simonson

*We've got the whole world in our hands ...
We've got the flowers and the trees in our hands ...
We've got the people and the bees in our hands ...*

WE HONOR THE EARTH

Rev. Melanie Mullen

Latter-day Saints (LDS) Earth Stewardship: Our Earth

"And God saw everything that God had made, and, behold, it was very good ..."
— Genesis 1:31

EcoSikh

Rajwant Singh

"Air is the Guru, Water is the Father, and Earth is the Great Mother of all.
Day and night are the two nurses, in whose lap all the world is at play."
— Guru Granth Sahib

Young Evangelicals for Climate Action

Melody Zhang

"It is You who stills the roaring of the seas ..."
— Psalm 65:7-10, Hebrew Bible

The Bhumi Project

Gopal D. Patel & SriVani Ganti

“A devotee should not see anything as being separate from the Supreme Personality of Godhead, Krishna ...”
— Srimad Bhagavatam 11.2.41

Prayers to Lord Ganesh and Matru Bhumi

Prayer for Creation (*said together*)

*All humankind is one vast family,
This world, our home.
We sleep beneath one roof, the starry sky.
We warm ourselves before one hearth, the blazing sun.
Upon one soil we stand, and breathe one air, and drink one water, and
walk the night beneath one luminescent moon.
The children of the Universe are we, family of one blood,
Members in one worldwide family, this Earth, our home.*

WE LAMENT HARM TO THE EARTH AND HER CREATURES

Joelle Novey

Reflection

Joelle Novey

A Song of Our Warming Planet

Daniel Crawford

The Center for Spirituality in Nature

Beth Norcross

“How long will the land mourn, and the grass of every field wither ...”
— Jeremiah 12:4

Islamic Society of North America’s Green Initiative Team

Nana Firman

“Corruption has appeared throughout the land and sea by reason of what the hands of people have earned so He may let them taste part of the consequence of what they have done that perhaps they will return to righteousness.”
— The Holy Qur’an Surah Ar-Rum (Chapter 40) Verse 31

Global Catholic Climate Movement

Angélica Gonzalez-Apple

“We are faced not with two separate crises, one environmental and the other social, but rather with one.”
— Laudato Si, Pope Francis

GreenFaith

Rev. Leo Woodberry

“We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth up to the present time.”
— Romans 8:22, The New Testament

Prayer of Lament (*said together*)

*All humankind is one vast family,
This world, our home.
We acknowledge the damage to our roof, the starry sky.
We recognize the rising heat which harms our seas, our plains, our forests, and the life therein.
We lament the painful consequences of our choices on the sacred soil, and air, and water.
The children of the Universe are we, family of one blood,
Who bear responsibility for the hurt we cause each other and this Earth, our home.*

WE COMMIT TO HEALING THE EARTH

Reflection

The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry

One Earth Sangha

Thanissara

“... Our body, speech and mind never weary of the service.”

— Excerpt, *The Heart of the Bitter Almond Hedge Sutra* by Thanissara

Dayenu

Rabbi Jennie Rosenn

Deuteronomy 30: 11-15; 19

יא פי המצנה הזאת, אשר אנכי מצוה היום--לא-נפלאות הוא ממך, ולא רחקה הוא.

11 Surely, this instruction which I enjoin upon you this day is not too baffling for you, nor is it beyond your reach.

יב לא בשמים, הוא: לאמר, מי יעלה-לנו השמימה ויקחה לנו, וישמענו אתה, ונעשנה.

12 It is not in the heavens, that you should say, "Who among us can go up to the heavens and get it for us and impart it to us, that we may observe it?"

יג ולא מעבר לים, הוא: לאמר, מי יעבר-לנו אל-עבר הים ויקחה לנו, וישמענו אתה, ונעשנה.

13 Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, "Who among us can cross to the other side of the sea and get it for us and impart it to us, that we may observe it?"

יד פי-קרוב אליך הדבר, מאד: בפיה ובלבבך, לעשותו.

14 No, the thing is very close to you, in your mouth and in your heart, to observe it.

טו ראה נתתי לפניך היום, את-החיים ואת-הטוב, ואת-המוות, ואת-הרע.

15 See, I set before you this day life and prosperity, death and adversity

יט העדתי בכם היום, את-השמים ואת-הארץ--החיים והמוות נתתי לפניך, הברכה והקללה; ובחרת, בחיים--למען תחיה, אתה וורעך.

19 I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day: I have put before you life and death, blessing and curse. Choose life—so that you and your offspring may live.

Unitarian Universalist Association

Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth

Elandria Williams and Aly Tharp

“Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.”

— The seven principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association

Creation Justice Ministries

Shantha Ready Alonso

“We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. In this unfolding conundrum of life and history, there *is* such a thing as being too late. This is no time for apathy or complacency. This is a time for vigorous and positive action.”

— The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Tide Is Rising (*sung together*)

Rabbi Shoshana Meira Friedman and Yotam Schachter

performed by Imani-Grace Cooper, Joelle Novey & Victor Simonson

The tide is rising, and so are we! (3x)

This is where we are called to be! (2x)

The task is mighty ...

The world is ready ...

AN OFFERING OF ACTION

Rev. Susan Hendershot

Please click [here](#) or go to cathedral.org/earthday to take action with us!

Blue Boat Home

lyrics by Peter Mayer

performed by Imani-Grace Cooper & Victor Simonson

Prayer of Commitment *(said together)*

All humankind is one vast family,

This world, our home.

We pledge our care to all the life beneath one roof, the starry sky.

We honor all who seek the warmth of blazing sun.

We will remember that upon one soil we stand, and breathe one air, and drink one water,

and walk the night beneath one luminescent moon.

All children of the Universe are we — creatures of the land, and sea, and air,

All life that lives upon, within, this Earth, our home.

Laguna Pueblo/Omaha remarks

Mary Phillips

Prayer of Peace

SriVani Ganti

Commissioning

Rev. Melanie Mullen

Reprise: The Tide Is Rising *(sung together)*

performed by Imani-Grace Cooper, Joelle Novey & Victor Simonson

Our land is holy, and so are we! (3x)

This is where we are called to be! (2x)

The task is mighty, and so are we ...

CO-CONVENERS

Washington National Cathedral

The Rev. Melanie Mullen, Director of Reconciliation, Justice and Creation Care
The Episcopal Church
cathedral.org

Interfaith Power and Light

The Rev. Susan Hendershot, President and Joelle Novey, Director
Interfaith Power & Light (DC, MD, NoVA)
interfaithpowerandlight.org • ipldmv.org

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS AND REPRESENTATIVES

The Bhumi Project

SriVani Ganti, DC Coordinator and Gopal D. Patel, Director
bhumiproject.org

The Center for Spirituality in Nature

Beth Norcross, Founder and Director
centerforspiritualityinnature.org

Creation Justice Ministries

Shantha Ready Alonso, Executive Director
creationjustice.org

Dayenu: A Jewish Call to Climate Action

Rabbi Jennie Rosenn
dayenu.org

EcoSikh

Dr. Rajwant Singh, Founder and President
ecosikh.org

Global Catholic Climate Movement

Angélica Gonzalez-Apple, Program Manager
North America
catholicclimatemovement.global

GreenFaith

The Rev. Leo Woodberry, Board Member
greenfaith.org

Islamic Society of North America's Green Initiative Team

Nana Firman
isna.net

LDS Earth Stewardship

Merikay Smith, Board Member
ldsearthstewardship.org

One Earth Sangha

Kristin Barker, Co-Founder, and Thanissara, Co-Founder, Sacred Mountain Sangha
oneearthsangha.org

Unitarian Universalist Association

Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth
Aly Tharp, Program Director and Elandria Williams, Co-Moderator
uumfe.org

Young Evangelicals for Climate Action

The Rev. Kyle Meyaard-Schapp and Melody Zhang
yecaction.org

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS & CONTRIBUTORS

Imani-Grace Cooper, vocals

Victor Simonson, piano

Jansikwe Medina-Tayac, Piscataway

Mary Phillips, Laguna Pueblo/Omaha

Gabrielle Tayac, Piscataway

MULTI-FAITH EARTH DAY SERVICE, APRIL 19, 2020

Full Texts

Earth Stewardship East, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

“And God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good ...” (Genesis 1:31)

EcoSikh

“Air is the Guru, Water is the Father, and Earth is the Great Mother of all.
Day and night are the two nurses, in whose lap all the world is at play.”
— Guru Granth Sahib

Young Evangelicals for Climate Action

Psalm 65:5-10 (ESV)

5 By awesome deeds you answer us with righteousness,
O God of our salvation,
the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas;
6 the one who by his strength established the mountains,
being girded with might;
7 who stills the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves,
the tumult of the peoples,
8 so that those who dwell at the ends of the earth are in awe at your signs.
You make the going out of the morning and the evening to shout for joy.

9 You visit the earth and water it;
you greatly enrich it;
the river of God is full of water;
you provide their grain,
for so you have prepared it.
10 You water its furrows abundantly,
settling its ridges,
softening it with showers,
and blessing its growth.

The Bhumi Project

Srimad Bhagavatam 11.2.41

*kham vāyum agniṁ salilam mahīm ca
jyotīṁṣi sattvāni diśo drumādīn
sarit-samudrāmś ca hareḥ śarīram
yat kim ca bhūtam praṇamed ananyaḥ*

A devotee should not see anything as being separate from the Supreme Personality of Godhead, Krishna. Ether, fire, air, water, earth, the sun and other luminaries, all living beings, the directions, trees and other plants, the rivers and oceans — whatever a devotee experiences he should consider to be an expansion of Krishna. Thus seeing everything that exists within creation as the body of the Supreme Lord, the devotee should offer his sincere respects to the entire expansion of the Lord's body.

Prayer to Lord Ganesh:

*Om Vakratunda Mahakaya Suryakoti Samaprabha
Nirvighnam Kuru Me Deva Sarva-Kaaryeshu Sarvada ||*

O Lord Ganesh of the curved trunk and massive body, the one whose splendor is equal to millions of Suns, please bless me to that I do not face any obstacles in my endeavors.

Prayer to Matru (Mother) Bhumi:

*Samudhra Vasane Devi,
Parvatha Sthana Mandithe,
Vishnu Pathni Namasthubhyam
Pada Sparsam Kshamasva Mae*

Salutations to the divine wife of Lord Vishnu, who is clothed by oceans,
And is adorned prettily by the mountains, Pardon me Mother, for setting my foot on you.

The Center for Spirituality in Nature

“How long will the land mourn, and the grass of every field wither? For the wickedness of those who live in it, and the animals and the birds are swept away.” (Jeremiah 12:4)

Islamic Society of North America’s Green Initiative Team

“Corruption has appeared throughout the land and sea by reason of what the hands of people have earned so He may let them taste part of the consequence of what they have done that perhaps they will return to righteousness.” (The Holy Qur’an Surah Ar-Rum (Chapter 40) Verse 31)

Global Catholic Climate Movement

“For I was hungry and you fed me; I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me; naked and you clothed me. I was ill and you comforted me; in prison and you came to visit me. ... The truth is, every time you did this for the least of my sisters or brothers, you did it for me.” (Matthew 25:35-40)

Psalm 8 — Divine Majesty and Human Dignity

O Lord, our Lord, how awesome is your name through all the earth! You have set your majesty above the heavens! Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have drawn a defense against your foes, to silence enemy and avenger. When I see your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and stars that you set in place — What are humans that you are mindful of them, mere mortals that you care for them? Yet you have made them little less than a god, crowned them with glory and honor. You have given them rule over the works of your hands, put all things at their feet: All sheep and oxen, even the beasts of the field, The birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever swims the paths of the seas. O Lord, our Lord, how awesome is your name through all the earth!

Laudato Si, Pope Francis

“When we speak of the ‘environment’, what we really mean is a relationship existing between nature and the society which lives in it. Nature cannot be regarded as something separate from ourselves or as a mere setting in which we live. We are part of nature, included in it and thus in constant interaction with it. ... We are faced not with two separate crises, one environmental and the other social, but rather with one.”

GreenFaith

“We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth up to the present time.” (Romans 8:22)

One Earth Sangha

The Heart of the Bitter Almond Hedge Sutra (excerpt) by Thanissara

Time with relentless harvesting
your precious human life
is short.
As all life
gathers proof of our faith
through the pilgrimage of the night
that tests the grounds of our being,
so we may know
the measure of courage
and the wellspring of our heart.
from which we sip nectar.

Just as the brown, striped bug
drinks from the white elderflower,
and the orange, thin-winged butterfly
skips through ochre grasses.
and the grey, knowing wolves
move through cold, white snow,
and the rhinos through dry, bush veldr, go
as lions stalk impala
along the river slow

Slow is the Earth's rhythm,
deep and unfathomable in our collective soul.
The rhythm of the days tick-tock.
winding through the web of our connection
of Internet consumption
where we search what we hope to know.

Because to truly know is to not know.
And to not know
is so much evidence of where faith can go.

It is like a great regal tree growing in the rocks and sand of barren wilderness. When the roots get water, the branches, leaves, flowers, and fruits will all flourish. The regal tree of enlightenment growing in the wilderness of birth and death is the same. All living beings are its roots; all buddhas and bodhisattvas are its flowers and fruits. By serving all beings, by serving this great Earth, by pouring the water of living, gentle, and fierce compassion, together we will embody the flowers and fruits of our true awakening. And even when the realms of empty space are exhausted, the realms of living beings are exhausted, the karmas of living beings are exhausted, and the afflictions of living beings are exhausted, we will still accord with this, our deepest heart, endlessly, continuously, in thought after thought, without cease. Our body, speech and mind never weary of the service.” So says our true heart.

Dayenu

Deuteronomy 30: 11-15; 19

יא פי המצנה הזאת, אשר אנכי מצווה היום--לא-נפלאות הוא ממך, ולא רחוקה הוא.

11 Surely, this instruction which I enjoin upon you this day is not too baffling for you, nor is it beyond your reach.

יב לא בשמים, הוא: לאמר, מי יעלה-לנו השמימה ויקחה לנו, וישמענו אתה, ונעשנה.

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13 Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, "Who among us can cross to the other side of the sea and get it for us and impart it to us, that we may observe it?"

יד פי-קרוב אליך הדבר, מאד: בפיה ובלבבך, לעשותו.

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טו ראה נתתי לפניך היום, את-החיים ואת-הטוב, ואת-המוות, ואת-הרע.

15 See, I set before you this day life and prosperity, death and adversity

יט העדתי בכם היום, את-השמים ואת-הארץ--החיים והמוות נתתי לפניך, הברכה והקללה; ובחרת, בחיים--למען תחיה, אתה וורעך.

19 I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day: I have put before you life and death, blessing and curse. Choose life—so that you and your offspring may live.

Creation Justice

"We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. In this unfolding conundrum of life and history, there *is* such a thing as being too late. This is no time for apathy or complacency. This is a time for vigorous and positive action."

— Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Bhumi Project

Prayer for Peace

Om Dyauh Shaantir-Antarikssam Shaantih

Prthivii Shaantir-Aapah Shaantir-Ossadhayah Shaantih

Vanaspatayah Shaantir-Vishve-Devaah Shaantir-Brahma Shaantih

Sarvam Shaantih Shaantireva Shaantih Saa Maa Shaantir-Edhi

Om Shaantih Shaantih Shaantih

May peace radiate there in the whole sky as well as in the vast ethereal space everywhere. May peace reign all over this earth, in water and in all herbs, trees and creepers. May peace flow over the whole universe. May peace be in the Supreme Being Brahman. And may there always exist in all peace and peace alone. Aum peace, peace and peace to us and all beings!

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