

ORDER OF WORSHIP IN CELEBRATING EARTH DAY

Sunday, 24 April 2016

PREPARATION (If the situation allows, it is encouraged that the worship be done in a garden, seashore or field where all of God's creation can be one in worship)

SILENCE (Feel the sunlight, feel the wind, feel the sound around you, look around you, what do you see?)

LIGHTING OF A TORCH AS SYMBOL OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

OPENING SENTENCES (Taken from the UCCP Guide to Celebration 1998)

Leader: Prepare our hands for a touch, a new and different touch

People: Prepare our hands for a touch, a touch of encounter and awakening; a touch of hope, a touch of feeling.

Leader: Many are the worn out gestures, many are the movements frozen in time, many are the useless excuses just to repeat attitudes...

People: Give us daring hands to create new ties of compassion, new links of affection breaking away from old ways of relating; encouraging true, meaningful ways to move into closeness.

***INVOCATION** (Unison)

Spirit of God who sweeps above the waters in the time of formlessness and void, we seek Your presence to create in us the beauty and goodness as You have given to all creation. We come before You as formless beings that need Your power and grace to make us new and become the creation to which You have responded "And it was good". Renew us and make this worship a meaningful one for every created being. In Christ Name. Amen.

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

HFJ 21

Kadakilaan Mo, O Dios

(Words by Serafin Ruperto; Music by Bernardino Custodio)

Kadakilaan Mo, O Dios sinasaysay ng bawat tanawing aking minamasdan
Kapangyarihan Mo sa puso'y nakintal, kaya magpupuri habang nabubuhay

Sa hangin at bundok, sa tubig at lupa, sa dagat at batis sa bawat nilikha
Kapangyarihan Mo doo'y nababadha, kaya't kagalakang magpuring kusa

O Dios dakila Ka, dakila kailanman! Puso'y sumisigaw, di ko mapigilan,
Kaligayahan ko ang aking isaysay, kal'walhatian Mo na di mapaparam

CALL AND ACT OF CONFESSION

Leader: Let us confess our sins to God and be refreshed through God's work of forgiveness to us. Let us feel first the dirt, from which we came from. God molded us from this dirt but

we have forgotten our responsibility and identity as endowed with the Image of God. Let us now feel the water (of the sea) and cleanse our feet and hands and face as a sign of our cleansing. (Wash with water)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Minister)

We are all created in the Image of God. We have been blessed and entrusted to live harmoniously and peacefully with our fellow created beings. God is the author of all life and created beings. We exist because of God's will and love. Praise to God our Creator and Sustainer that we have been reminded of our identity in the Image of God through Jesus Christ; in forgiveness and redemption. Amen!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHURCH/ COMMUNITY CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER (Minister)

READING OF THE SCRIPTURE

SERMON

OFFERTORY (Seedlings of Mangrove or Cactus/ any seedlings)

Leader: Let us now offer these gifts to the sand/land and sea that belongs to God, just like us. God is the maker, we are God's creation. Let us then offer what God has bestowed upon us.

***DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***SONG OF COMMITMENT**

HFJ 39

Great is Your Faithfulness

(Music by William Runyan, words by Thomas Chisholm)

Great is Your faithfulness O God Creator, with You no shadow of turning we see
You do not change, Your compassion they fail not, all of Your goodness forever will be

Refrain:

Great is Your faithfulness, great of Your faithfulness, morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed Your hands has provided, great is Your faithfulness God unto me.

Summer, and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon and the stars courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness, to You great faithfulness, mercy and love (*Refrain*)

Pardon of sin and a peace so enduring, Your own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine with ten thousand beside (*Refrain*)

***PRAYER OF COMMITMENT (Minister)**

Guide us to work and to establish our broken relationship with the rest of creation. Help us to discern Your wisdom in creation and courageously do our part in this broken world. In the vision and mission towards the establishment of Your Kingdom, may we never forget that in love, justice and peace; the whole creation should be integral and active participants of Your task. O Spirit of God, enable us as You have enabled Christ to fulfill his mission. Amen.

***BENEDICTION (Minister)**

ACT OF COMMITMENT

“Planting a Seed/Coastal Clean-up”

(The Church is encouraged to participate in some activities that will help the Church be in one with the Earth)

