

TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION



Hymn: Spirit of God Marty Haugen https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GWxVXK96k7Y

Spirit blowing through creation, Spirit burning in the skies Let the hope of your salvation fill our eyes God of splendor, God of glory, You who light the stars above All the heavens tell the story of your love

Chorus: Spirit renewing the earth, renewing the hearts of all people, burn in the weary souls, blow through the silent lips ... Come now, awake us, Spirit of God

As you moved upon the waters, as you ride upon the wind Move us all, your sons and daughters, deep within As you shaped the hills and mountains, formed the land and filled the deep Let your hand renew and waken all who sleep

Love that sends the rivers dancing, love that waters all that lives Love that heals and holds and rouses and forgives You are food for all your creatures; You are hunger in the soul In your hands the broken-hearted are made whole.

Opening Prayer:

Triune God, Creator of all, we gather here, made in the image of the Creator who created in love. We gather in the name of Jesus Christ, Who reconciles all of Creation. We gather in the presence of the life Giver, your Holy Spirit, Who inspires new life and instills hope.



World Council of Churches, Greece, November 2023

Readings

We know that the whole of creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labour, and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Rom. 8: 22-25

We have returned to for hope:

"Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world's grief.

Do justly now.

Love mercy now.

Walk humbly now.

You are not obligated to complete the work.

but neither are you free to abandon it."

Excerpt from the Talmud

As never before in history, common destiny beckons us to seek a new beginning....
Let ours be a time remembered for the awakening of a new reverence for life, the firm resolve to achieve sustainability, the quickening of the struggle for justice and peace, and the joyful celebration of life.

Earth Charter 2000

Blessing

May God who can set Creation free, show us his glory.

Glory to God.

May God who knows our groaning and crying, bring about new life.

Now and always.

May God who helps us in our weakness, give us the first fruits of hope.

The Lord is our hope.

And may the Triune God sprinkle into our hearts the dew of his grace and bless us all.

Amen.