

Creationtide 2020

13th Sep 20

Led by Fiona Bennett & David Coleman

Welcome & Gathering

Call to worship

Today,
The Source of life beckons us.
The Guide of abundant living steers us.
The Spirit of creative living shapes us.
Beckoning, steering, shaping,
Holy Three in One,
We gather to worship you.

Hymn: O the life of the world CH4 141

This version was re-crafted by Kathy Galloway for the induction of David as EcoCong Scotland Chaplain.

Oh the life of the world is a joy and a treasure,
unfolding in beauty the green growing tree,
the changing of seasons
in mountain and valley,
the stars and the bright restless sea.

Oh the life of the world
is a promise of blessing,
in the rain that renews,
in the heat of the sun;
in the heart that confesses and the act that expresses
all things and all people are one.

Oh the life of the world
is the breath of our being,
it is fragile and precious
and offers a choice;
shall we share the earth wisely,
can we touch the earth gently,
will we listen to earth's silenced voice?

So give thanks for the life
and give love to the Maker,
and rejoice in the gift
of the bright risen Son,
and walk in the peace
and the power of the Spirit,
till the days of our living are done.

Kathy Galloway

- **Opening Prayer**

ALL: In deepest space (arms up)
In the core of the earth (arms down)
In my heart (hands at heart)
The God of Love is alive

Time for all ages: Yew

Song: Peace of the earth CH4 798

The peace of the earth be with you,
the peace of the heavens too;
the peace of the rivers be with you,
the peace of the oceans too.
Deep peace falling over you;
God's peace growing in you.
Guatemalan text translated Christine Carson (b. 1965)

Fiona: We are now going to hear the Bible reading from Exodus, read to us by Talli, which is going to lead into David Coleman's reflection on the story and on his 25 years in ministry, and be followed by a meditation with music from the Flint Male voice choir (David was inducted in Flint and in fact it was Murdoch MacKenzie who preached him in) along with a beautiful celebration of images.

Readings: Exodus 14:19-31 (NRSVA) read by Taliesin Coleman

19 The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. 20 It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. 22 The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. 23 The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. 24 At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. 25 He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt.'

26 Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.' 27 So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. 28 The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. 29 But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

30 Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. 31 Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Reflection: Rev David Coleman

Meditation: Celebration of 25 years in ministry with Flint Male Voice Choir

Prayers of the People: from EcoCongregations Scotland

Offering & Dedication

Hymn: The Generosity of the trees Ps 150:6 (tune Glasgow)

The generosity of trees!
each leaf our life sustains
for Love is Green and Christ's embrace
through wood and nails retains.

The shaping of a space to live
where freedom is inspired
requires attentiveness to thrive
that freedom be desired.

One Tree of Life lines every road:
the sign of God's wide arms:
God's people, breathing in such love
exhale inclusive psalms.

o plant, love, tend: forge paths to care
for needs, and to embrace
all creatures breathing, that their praise
may beautify this place.

David Coleman

Notices

Blessing & Sung Amen