



WAY OF LIFE

STAY ♦ SHARE ♦ SERVE

# CLIMATE JUSTICE & DISCIPLESHIP: A CONTEMPLATIVE JOURNEY INTO ACTION

*Participant's Resource*

[lent2025.wayoflife.london](https://lent2025.wayoflife.london)



— DIOCESE OF —  
**LONDON**



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*'The Christian life is about living in harmony with God, with one another, and with the whole of creation. The call to care for creation is not optional—it is an integral part of our discipleship.'*

The Revd Dr Ruth Valerio

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To accompany this Lent offering with a soundtrack, we have created a Spotify playlist.

Search 'Lent 2025: Climate Justice' on your app or use the following link:

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/3XEvPw03gYSI1L0gJzUJJH?si=D1bCP36HQtu576jR7fyYYA>

*The five themes of our sessions are inspired by 'Epilogue on Climate Justice' in 'Act Justly: Practices to Reshape the World', Canterbury Press 2022, Samuel Wells. Used with permission.*



## CLIMATE JUSTICE & DISCIPLESHIP

# INTRODUCTION

### OVERVIEW

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*And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6.8*

#### ◆ The offering

This offering invites us to renew our faith and discipleship in Jesus as we respond to the climate and ecological emergency.

The programme consists of five weekly online sessions hosted by our bishops, followed by listening group discussions to explore the themes in your own context. The online sessions last *one hour*, with group reflection in your own setting taking about *half an hour*. Each weekly handout also includes optional contemplative practices for participants to use during the week.

You can join the online sessions individually, live stream them in your church, or watch the recordings at a later time. Recordings will be available at [lent2025.wayoflife.london](https://lent2025.wayoflife.london).

#### ◆ Weekly themes

##### **WEEK 1: HUMILITY**

with the Revd Dr Peniel Rajkumar

##### **WEEK 2: SOLIDARITY**

with Dr Lisa Adjei

##### **WEEK 3: EXAMPLE**

with the Revd Melissa Dickinson

##### **WEEK 4: ACCOUNTABILITY**

with Deborah Colvin

##### **WEEK 5: HOPE**

with the Revd Dr Dave Bookless

#### ◆ Online session format

All online sessions follow the same format:

- Welcome & opening liturgy (*page 4*)
- Practice 1: Awe & Wonder (*page 5*)
- Reflection by guest speaker
- Conversation with hosting bishop
- Practice 2: Earth Examen (*page 6*)
- Notices and closing liturgy

#### ◆ Handouts and session materials

This resource includes:

1. A handout with the weekly liturgy and practices used in all online sessions.
2. A unique handout for each session with:
  - An introduction to the theme and preparation guidance.
  - A listening group practice for reflecting after the online session.
  - Optional materials for deeper engagement, including individual practices and background resources.

If you are leading a group, we recommend ensuring each participant has access to these handouts, especially the weekly liturgy and listening group practice.

Additional materials can be used as needed. Participants may also be invited to bring an item from outside, such as a leaf, stick, pebble, or seed/flower (see weekly handouts for details).



## CLIMATE JUSTICE & DISCIPLESHIP

# THE LITURGY

### OPENING

#### 1 Candle

We light a candle as a sign of God's presence with us and as a symbol of hope for all creation.

#### 2 Breath prayer

The earth is the Lord's (*inhale*)  
and all that is within it. (*exhale*)  
*Psalm 24:1*

#### 3 Opening prayer

Jesus Christ,  
as we journey with you from contemplation  
to action, inspire our hearts and hands to  
participate in your renewing and restoring  
work for all creation:  
**speak Lord, we are listening.**

As we hear your call to act justly,  
to love mercy, and to walk humbly, renew  
our hearts and deepen our discipleship:  
**speak Lord, we are listening.**

As we gather,  
may we encounter you in ourselves,  
in each other,  
and in the world around us.

**Amen.**

#### 4 Bible reading

### CLOSING

#### 1 Breath prayer

The earth is the Lord's (*inhale*)  
and all that is within it. (*exhale*)  
*Psalm 24:1*

#### 2 Closing prayer

Jesus Christ,  
we have met in your name,  
slowed down to pray, listen, and reflect  
on the care of your Earth and the  
restoration of all creation.

Thank you for meeting us here:  
in our hearts,  
in each other,  
and in the world around us.

**We give you thanks for your presence and  
guidance. May our hearts stay open to your  
work of justice. Empower us to act with love  
and care for your creation.**

#### 3 Blessing

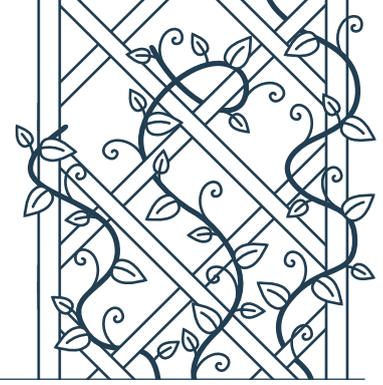
May the strength of God sustain us,  
the wisdom of God guide us,  
the compassion of God move us,  
and the love of God surround us.  
As we seek justice, love mercy,  
and walk humbly with our God:  
Go in peace to cherish and protect creation.  
**Amen.**

*We blow out our candle as a sign that we  
are called to shine like lights in the world.  
To the glory of God, our Creator, Redeemer,  
and Sustainer.*



## CLIMATE JUSTICE & DISCIPLESHP

# WEEKLY PRACTICE 1: AWE & WONDER



### OUTLINE

*'The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it.'*

Psalm 24:1

Each week during our session, we will pray with an object from nature:

- **Week 1: A leaf** - *'the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations'* Revelation 22:2
- **Week 2: A twig, stick or tree** - *'I am the vine; you are the branches.'* John 15:5
- **Week 3: A small stone or pebble** - *'Each one will be like the shadow of a great rock in a thirsty land.'* Isaiah 32:2
- **Week 4: A glass of water** - *'But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!'* Amos 5:24
- **Week 5: A flower or seed** - *'consider the lilies'* Luke 12:27 / *'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed'* Matthew 13:31

The practice will be slightly adapted around each different object, but here is a general outline:

#### 1 Touch

Take time to explore your object with curiosity. Notice its shape, texture, or temperature. Are there patterns, marks, or imperfections? If you cannot touch it, imagine how it might feel or appear. Consider its uniqueness and the story it tells. Approach it as though noticing it for the first time.

#### 2 Trace

Reflect on how this object came to be. Perhaps it grew over time, shaped by sunlight, water, and soil, or was formed by natural forces like wind or waves. Think about the unseen processes that brought it into being.

Expand your thoughts to the bigger picture: How does this object contribute to its surroundings? Consider its place in the web of creation, interconnected with the earth, air, and sun.

#### 3 Tune in

Pause to reflect on what this small part of creation reveals. Tune in to its role in the vastness of the world and how it connects to the earth, air, and sun. How does it feel to know it plays a part in the intricate web of creation? What prayer or praise does this part of God's creation stir within you? Gratitude, awe, humility, curiosity, or something else?

#### 4 Thank

Offer a quiet prayer of gratitude: *'Thank you, God, for the beauty and wonder of creation, and for this reminder of your presence in all things.'*

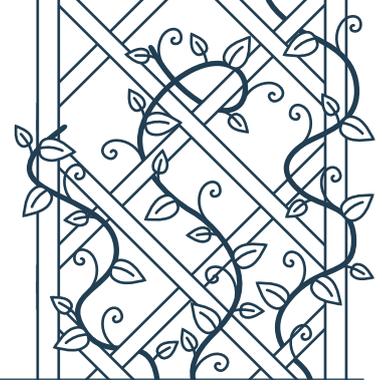
#### 5 Treasure

Place the object gently back where you found it or keep it with you as a token of this moment. If imagining, hold onto the memory of this practice. Treasure this experience and carry with you a sense of awe and interconnectedness as you go about your day, noticing the beauty and vastness of creation wherever you can.



## CLIMATE JUSTICE & DISCIPLESHIP

# WEEKLY PRACTICE 2: EARTH EXAMEN



### OUTLINE

#### 1 Opening

Let us take a moment to pause and reflect together using the Earth Examen. Through three simple questions, titled Glory, Groan, and Grow, we will hold before God what we've experienced and heard today, and listen for God's invitation to us.

#### 2 Glory

**Where have we encountered beauty and wonder?**

Think about the beauty, glory and majesty of creation—perhaps a blooming flower, a squirrel darting through the park, the smell of rain on the earth, or the warmth of sunlight on your face. What fills you with wonder or gratitude?

As we reflect on what we have heard and shared today, what has sparked a sense of hope, awe, or possibility?

*Hold silence*

*Share brief reflections*

CALL: Where we see glimpses of glory,

RESPONSE: **Lord, we thank you.**

#### 3 Groan

**Where do we experience creation groaning?**

What stirs sorrow or concern in us? What systems or patterns trouble us, and where do we feel the weight of human power or powerlessness?

We might also notice the groaning within ourselves—the sorrow, anxiety or frustration we feel for the world.

*Hold silence*

*Share brief reflections*

CALL: Where there is suffering,

RESPONSE: **Lord, bring wisdom and peace.**

#### 4 Grow

**What might healing look like—for ourselves, our communities, and all creation?**

God is the source of true growth and restoration. Where is renewal already unfolding in the world around us? What steps, small or big, is God calling us to take, personally or together, as part of God's work of renewal?

*Hold silence*

*Share brief reflections*

CALL: Where we see opportunity for growth,

RESPONSE: **Lord, pour out your blessing.**

#### 5 Closing prayer

*Loving Creator,  
thank you for opening our hearts to  
glimpses of glory and our ears to the groans  
of your creation. Teach us to walk gently on  
the earth, to care deeply for your world, and  
to grow in trust as we participate in your  
continual work of renewal. Amen.*

# CLIMATE JUSTICE & DISCIPLESHIP

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## WEEK 1 - HUMILITY





## CLIMATE JUSTICE AND DISCIPLESHIP

# WEEK 1 | HUMILITY

### BACKGROUND

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*And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.*

Philippians 2:8 (NRSV) - full reading: Philippians 2:1-11

#### ◆ Theme: Humility

**In Bethlehem Jesus humbled himself to be born as one of us.**

As Christians, we are called to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God. In Jesus, born in Bethlehem, we encounter God who became one of us, for us. Lent, and the journey through Holy Week, remind us that this act of love and humility was costly. Jesus' humility led him to suffer and die on the cross—offering forgiveness, restoration, and reconciliation with God. In his life, death, and resurrection, we witness God's great love story unfolding here on earth.

We proclaim that the Earth is the Lord's, yet we are complicit in pollution, habitat destruction, and consumerism harming our planet. Facing the climate crisis begins with humility, acknowledging that we are part of God's creation. We are invited to recognise how our lives, particularly in wealthier nations, are tied to systems exploiting nature and vulnerable people. If our discipleship calls us to act, love, and walk with God, how might we respond to the climate emergency with humility, repentance, and hope?

#### ◆ Preparation

For this week's online session, each participant needs:

- A leaf from outside.
- A copy of the liturgy ([page 4](#)).
- A copy of this handout ([page 8-11](#)).
- A candle (if meeting as a group, only one is needed).

For those meeting as a group, it might be helpful to have sticky notes and pens available for the Earth Examen practice.

#### ◆ After the online session

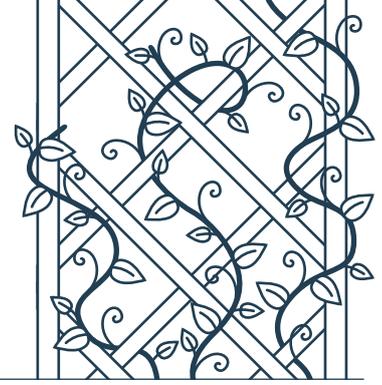
On the next page of this handout, you will find:

- A listening practice for group sharing after the session.
- Individual practices for going deeper during the week.
- Further stories, statistics and resources.



## CLIMATE JUSTICE & DISCIPLESHIP

# WEEK 1 | HUMILITY



### PRACTICE: LISTENING GROUP

This outline is designed for group sharing after the online session. Unlike a discussion group, a listening group encourages a different approach. Instead of debating or waiting for a turn to speak, participants are invited to share in a reflective and open-hearted way, framed by moments of silence. The focus is not on solving problems or offering advice but on sitting with our questions and trusting in God's presence throughout the process. Groups can choose to stay together as one large group or divide into smaller ones. Sharing is voluntary; everyone is invited to speak, but it's perfectly fine to pass if you prefer not to.

#### Principles

- *Share honestly:* Reflect on your experience of God in life's circumstances. No need for 'perfect' faith.
- *Listen deeply:* Let each person share without interruption. Absorb and reflect on what is said.
- *Avoid judgement:* Refrain from offering advice or judgement.
- *Embrace silence:* Silence is an essential part of the process; don't shy away from it.

#### Practice

- *Wonderings:* Choose someone in your group to read each of the 'wonderings' aloud. Then, take turns briefly reflecting on one of the 'wonderings' that resonates with you personally. After each person shares, hold half a minute of silence. If time allows, go around the group again, with each person reflecting on a different 'wondering.'

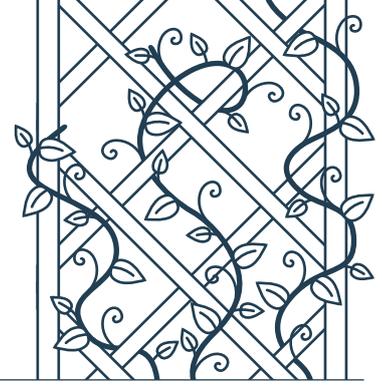
#### Wonderings

- I wonder what today's session stirred within you.
  - I wonder what the leaf we contemplated at the beginning of our session might teach us about humility.
  - I wonder if you could think of a time someone rightly pointed out you were wrong about someone or something.
  - I wonder if you can think of a time when you realised you needed to make a change—and succeeded in doing so.
- 
- *Bible passage (optional):* If you have extra time, you might want to reflect further on this week's Bible passage, *Philippians 2:1-11*. Start by having one person read the passage aloud slowly. Afterwards, each person can share a word or short phrase from the passage that stands out to them, without offering any explanation. Then, have someone else read the passage aloud again. This time, each person is invited to share briefly, in no more than a minute, why that part of the passage speaks to them.



# CLIMATE JUSTICE & DISCIPLESHIP

## WEEK 1 | HUMILITY



### GOING DEEPER (OPTIONAL MATERIALS)

#### ◆ Individual practices for the week ahead

The following practices offer a way to reflect on this week's theme and deepen your connection with God, creation, and others. Whether you prefer a quick reflection or a deeper exploration, both are designed to support your discipleship journey. Choose the path that resonates most with you.

#### Contemplative Practice 1 – Nature Reflection:

This week, take some time to observe creation – whether by spending time in a local park or looking out of a window. Pay attention to what you see and hear – the changing sky, the movement of leaves, the sounds of birds or the wind.

#### **Reflection Prompts:**

*What gratitude is stirred in my heart as I engage with creation?*

*What do I notice today that speaks to the interdependence of life?*

*How does this moment help me experience humility and gratitude towards God the Creator?*

#### Contemplative Practice 2 – Humility & Climate Justice:

Using the steps of the Earth Examen, take a moment during your week to reflect on how you've engaged with creation.

#### **1. Glory**

Take time to thank God for the beauty, complexity, and interdependence of the world.

*What parts of creation am I most grateful for today?*

*How does my gratitude lead me to consider the wider community and world around me?*

#### **2. Groan**

Acknowledge the harm we are causing to creation and how our actions contribute to its degradation.

*Where do I feel called to repentance for my attitudes and actions towards creation?*

*What do I feel called to lament for the way humanity has treated nature and others?*

#### **3. Grow**

Choose one small change to live more simply and humbly in your daily routine, whether it's reducing consumption, slowing down, or using resources more mindfully.

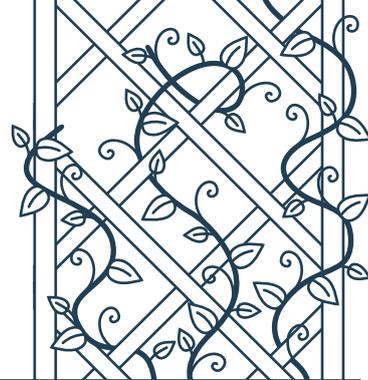
*How can I make space for simplicity this week in my own life?*

*How might I influence my family, friends, or my community to engage with creation in a more intentional, humble way?*



## CLIMATE JUSTICE & DISCIPLESHIP

# WEEK 1 | HUMILITY



### GOING DEEPER (OPTIONAL MATERIALS)

#### ◆ Stories

Over sixty people in the Diocese of London have participated in Carbon Literacy Training sessions, either in person or online. These sessions aim to raise awareness of our personal contributions to global carbon emissions. According to the Carbon Literacy Project, the average participant reduces their carbon emissions by up to a third after completing the training.

#### ◆ Statistics

Humility calls us to acknowledge the impact of our lifestyles and the carbon inequality at the heart of the climate crisis. Carbon inequality refers to the fact that those who contribute the least to carbon emissions often suffer the most from the effects of climate change. The increasing severity and frequency of climate-related disasters, such as devastating floods, wildfires, droughts, and storms, serve as a stark reminder of this reality.

The UK is among the world's highest carbon emitters. Today, the average annual carbon emissions of a UK adult are 8.4 tonnes. This includes emissions from heating our homes, importing clothes, and producing food. In 2019, the figure was higher, at nearly 12 tonnes. This reduction is due to government policies phasing out coal power stations as well as increasing renewable energy sources.

Globally, carbon footprints vary greatly. The average adult in Indonesia emits just 0.5 tonnes annually, while in North America, it's 14 tonnes. Even within London, there are disparities. In Bow, East London, the average is 11.8 tonnes, while in Kensington, it's 22 tonnes.

The UK aims to decarbonise—reduce its carbon emissions to net-zero—by 2050. Personal choices—such as what we eat, buy, and how we travel—will play a growing role. With emissions eight times higher than those in the most affected regions, we must ensure our government has climate-friendly policies as well as rethink our lifestyles.

*(All UK figures taken from the WWF UK Carbon Footprint Calculator.)*

#### ◆ Further resources

To reduce our carbon impact, we first need to understand where it comes from. Here are some tools and resources to help:

- WWF Footprint Calculator - [footprint.wwf.org.uk](https://footprint.wwf.org.uk): A free tool to assess the carbon impact of four key areas in your life: Travel, Food, Housing, and 'Stuff'.
- Carbon Confidence in an Hour: A one-hour session offered by the Creation Care Team, designed to explore personal and church-related carbon emissions in a practical and accessible way.
- Church of England Carbon Literacy Training: A six-hour, certified course by the Carbon Literacy Project, organised by the Diocese. This internationally recognised training provides an in-depth understanding of emissions from individuals and the church sector.
- Eco Church Award Scheme - [ecochurch.arochoa.org.uk/resources/lifestyle/](https://ecochurch.arochoa.org.uk/resources/lifestyle/): Offers practical resources for congregations, including tips and tools for sustainable living and communicating these ideas effectively within your church community.

To express interest in diocesan training sessions, email: [creation.care@london.anglican.org](mailto:creation.care@london.anglican.org).

# CLIMATE JUSTICE & DISCIPLESHIP

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## WEEK 2 - SOLIDARITY





## CLIMATE JUSTICE AND DISCIPLESHIP

# WEEK 2 | SOLIDARITY

### BACKGROUND

*'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'*

Luke 4:18-19 (NRSV) - full reading: Luke 4:16-21

#### ◆ Theme: Solidarity

**In Nazareth Jesus lived in solidarity with us for 30 years.**

Throughout his ministry, Jesus lived in solidarity with the poor, the marginalised, and the excluded. This week, we are invited to reflect on the deep connection between climate justice and racial justice. Samuel Wells reminds us that solidarity in the context of climate justice shifts our focus to a 'greater we', because, as he says, 'there is no individual climate crisis. It's an everybody thing.' (*Epilogue: Climate Justice*, p152) This perspective opens our eyes to the interconnectedness of our lives—with one another and with all of creation.

While imprisoned in Alabama, civil rights leader and American Baptist pastor Martin Luther King Jr. wrote: 'Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.' (*Letter from Birmingham Jail*, 16 April 1963)

The climate emergency disproportionately affects the most vulnerable, especially in the Global South, where recovery is harder. Engaging with climate justice offers an opportunity to embody racial justice,

standing in solidarity with our brothers and sisters around the world. Together, we can work toward a vision of justice that embraces all of creation.

#### ◆ Preparation

For this week's online session, each participant needs:

- A twig or stick from outside.
- A copy of the liturgy (*page 4*).
- A copy of this handout (*page 13-16*).
- A candle (if meeting as a group, only one is needed).

It will also be helpful to have access to stories shared in the appendix (*page 32-35*), so if you are meeting as a group you might want to print out some copies. Additionally, having sticky notes and pens on hand will be useful for the Earth Examen practice.

#### ◆ After the online session

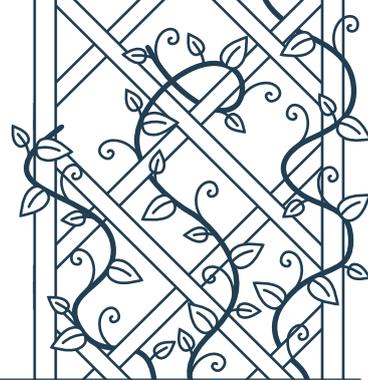
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## CLIMATE JUSTICE & DISCIPLESHIP

# WEEK 2 | SOLIDARITY



### PRACTICE: LISTENING GROUP

This outline is designed for group sharing after the online session. Unlike a discussion group, a listening group encourages a different approach. Instead of debating or waiting for a turn to speak, participants are invited to share in a reflective and open-hearted way, framed by moments of silence. The focus is not on solving problems or offering advice but on sitting with our questions and trusting in God's presence throughout the process. Groups can choose to stay together as one large group or divide into smaller ones. Sharing is voluntary; everyone is invited to speak, but it's perfectly fine to pass if you prefer not to.

#### Principles

- *Share honestly*: Reflect on your experience of God in life's circumstances. No need for 'perfect' faith.
- *Listen deeply*: Let each person share without interruption. Absorb and reflect on what is said.
- *Avoid judgement*: Refrain from offering advice or judgement.
- *Embrace silence*: Silence is an essential part of the process; don't shy away from it.

#### Practice

- *Wonderings*: Choose someone in your group to read each of the 'wonderings' aloud. Then, take turns briefly reflecting on one of the 'wonderings' that resonates with you personally. After each person shares, hold half a minute of silence. If time allows, go around the group again, with each person reflecting on a different 'wondering.'

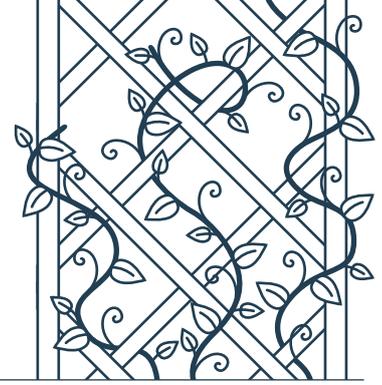
#### Wonderings

- I wonder what today's session stirred within you.
  - I wonder what the twig or stick we contemplated at the beginning of our session might teach us about solidarity.
  - I wonder what the word 'solidarity' means to you.
  - I wonder how God might be inviting us to show solidarity with communities who currently bear the greatest burdens of environmental harm.
- 
- *Bible passage (optional)*: If you have extra time, you might want to reflect further on this week's Bible passage, *Luke 4:16-21*. Start by having one person read the passage aloud slowly. Afterwards, each person can share a word or short phrase from the passage that stands out to them, without offering any explanation. Then, have someone else read the passage aloud again. This time, each person is invited to share briefly, in no more than a minute, why that part of the passage speaks to them.



## CLIMATE JUSTICE & DISCIPLESHIP

# WEEK 2 | SOLIDARITY



### GOING DEEPER (OPTIONAL MATERIALS)

#### ◆ Individual practices for the week ahead

The following practices offer a way to reflect on this week's theme and deepen your connection with God, creation, and others. Whether you prefer a quick reflection or a deeper exploration, both are designed to support your discipleship journey. Choose the path that resonates most with you.

#### **Contemplative Practice 1 – Nature Reflection:**

This week, take a moment to connect with nature, either by stepping outside or observing through a window. Pay attention to how God speaks to you through creation in its diversity, beauty, and fragility. Reflect on how you can be in solidarity with creation and those most impacted by climate injustice.

#### **Reflection Prompts:**

*What gratitude is stirred in my heart as I engage with creation?*

*What parts of creation need solidarity and care today?*

*How can I be more attuned to the struggles of those suffering from environmental harm, both globally and locally?*

#### **Contemplative Practice 2 – Solidarity through Stories:**

This week, dedicate some time to engage with the stories and perspectives of communities directly impacted by the climate crisis, especially those from different cultural, racial, or socio-economic backgrounds.

You can find examples from our companion link dioceses Mozambique and Angola on page 32-35 of the resource. You can also use this resource from Christian Aid:

[www.christianaid.org.uk/sites/default/files/2022-06/our-prophetic-journey-towards-climate-justice.pdf](http://www.christianaid.org.uk/sites/default/files/2022-06/our-prophetic-journey-towards-climate-justice.pdf), or watch this video: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=MjPt4gEV7AO](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MjPt4gEV7AO).

#### **1. Listen**

Choose one story, article, or video from a global perspective or from voices in communities disproportionately affected by climate change. Look for sources that highlight the lived experiences, resilience, and challenges faced by these communities.

#### **2. Reflect**

Take a few moments to sit with what you've learned. Ask yourself:

*How does this story change or deepen my understanding of the climate crisis?*

*How might God be present in solidarity with those in the story?*

*How is God calling me to enter into the same solidarity? What is one way I can honour or act in solidarity with this community in my choices and prayers?*

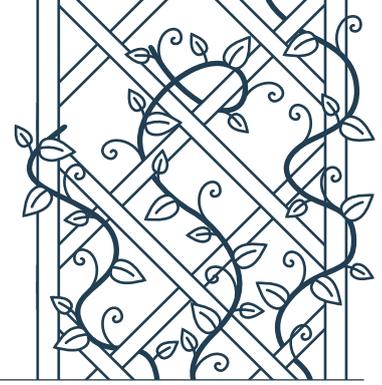
#### **3. Pray**

Pray over any insights, feelings, or questions that arise. Consider one small action you might take to support, advocate for, or learn more about these communities.



## CLIMATE JUSTICE & DISCIPLESHIP

# WEEK 2 | SOLIDARITY



### GOING DEEPER (OPTIONAL MATERIALS)

#### ◆ Stories

Last year, the bishops of the Diocese of London supported the 'Big One' Climate Coalition's protests, calling for fairer climate finance and greater government support for developing nations. This aligns with the Anglican Communion's long-standing advocacy for greater financial support for developing nations through the United Nations, which is crucial for countries already suffering from the climate crisis. At the same time, our diocese divested from fossil fuel companies, responding to these companies' failure to meet commitments to invest in renewable energy.

These examples can guide us as we explore what solidarity might look like. Has our parish recognised the climate crisis? Do we consider how our finances (pensions, savings, investments) may be supporting the fossil fuel industry? Do we share stories from the Anglican Communion and engage with campaigns to raise awareness of the experiences of those most affected by the climate crisis?

#### ◆ Statistics

The carbon emissions driving the climate crisis come mainly from developed countries, yet the greatest impacts are felt in the Global South, where resources to adapt to the changing climate are scarce. As the Young Christian Climate Network puts it: "We are all in the same storm, but we are not in the same boat."

Our brothers and sisters around the world are already facing the grim realities that our climate crisis is causing. In our Link Diocese of Mozambique, our siblings in Christ have faced severe flooding from tropical cyclones in 2021 and 2023, a pattern that promises to only get worse.

At COP29, the annual United Nations climate summit, developing nations requested \$1 trillion annually for climate adaptation. Wealthy countries, with a combined GDP of over \$50 trillion, agreed to just \$300 billion—and most of this funding comes as loans with interest. Christian Aid reports that only 25% of climate finance is given as grants. Meanwhile, Oxfam estimates that in 2024, 91 low-income countries will spend 17% of their revenue on debt repayments—money desperately needed for climate resilience.

#### ◆ Further resources

We can stand in solidarity with the Global South by supporting campaigns from Tearfund, Oxfam, and Christian Aid. These groups call on the UK Government to provide climate finance as grants rather than interest-charging loans and to increase funding to match the scale of the crisis:

- For guidance on engaging with MPs, contact Hope for the Future, a charity specialising in political engagement: [www.hftf.org.uk](http://www.hftf.org.uk)
- The Eco Church Award Scheme offers resources on community and global engagement, helping churches raise awareness of these issues locally: [ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/resources/community-and-global](http://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/resources/community-and-global)
- Christian Aid has numerous resources to help us discuss these issues as a church family and to support communities overseas: [www.christianaid.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns/our-prophetic-journey-towards-climate-justice](http://www.christianaid.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns/our-prophetic-journey-towards-climate-justice)

# CLIMATE JUSTICE & DISCIPLESHIP

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## WEEK 3 - EXAMPLE





## CLIMATE JUSTICE AND DISCIPLESHIP

# WEEK 3 | EXAMPLE

### BACKGROUND

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*Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.*

1 Peter 2:4-5 (NRSV) - full reading: 1 Peter 2:4-10

#### ◆ Theme: Example

**In Galilee, Jesus set us an example of courage and sacrifice.**

As Christians, we are called to live out our faith as an example of God's transforming love in action. Each Lent and Holy Week, we reflect on Jesus' sacrificial love and are invited to let it shape how we serve and live in the world.

Responding to the climate crisis requires a 'both/and' approach — advocating for large-scale systemic and corporate change while leading by example through grassroots initiatives and faith-based action. These local movements often inspire broader global shifts, showing how personal and communal discipleship can ignite hope and transformation.

Rooted in Jesus, our cornerstone, we are called to be living stones, building a spiritual house together. The stories of individuals and church communities responding to the climate emergency show how faith can inspire practical action, turning apathy into hope. As the body of Christ, we step forward together, witnessing to God's life-giving love for the whole of creation.

#### ◆ Preparation

For this week's online session, each participant needs:

- A stone or pebble from outside.
- A copy of the liturgy (*page 4*).
- A copy of this handout (*page 18-21*).
- A candle (if meeting as a group, only one is needed).

For those meeting as a group, it might be helpful to have sticky notes and pens available for the Earth Examen practice.

#### ◆ After the online session

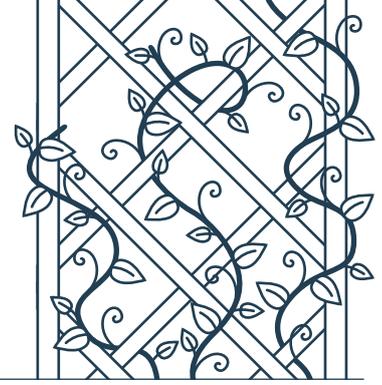
On the next page of this handout, you will find:

- A listening practice for group sharing after the session.
- Individual practices for going deeper during the week.
- Further stories, statistics and resources.



## CLIMATE JUSTICE & DISCIPLESHIP

# WEEK 3 | EXAMPLE



### PRACTICE: LISTENING GROUP

This outline is designed for group sharing after the online session. Unlike a discussion group, a listening group encourages a different approach. Instead of debating or waiting for a turn to speak, participants are invited to share in a reflective and open-hearted way, framed by moments of silence. The focus is not on solving problems or offering advice but on sitting with our questions and trusting in God's presence throughout the process. Groups can choose to stay together as one large group or divide into smaller ones. Sharing is voluntary; everyone is invited to speak, but it's perfectly fine to pass if you prefer not to.

#### Principles

- *Share honestly:* Reflect on your experience of God in life's circumstances. No need for 'perfect' faith.
- *Listen deeply:* Let each person share without interruption. Absorb and reflect on what is said.
- *Avoid judgement:* Refrain from offering advice or judgement.
- *Embrace silence:* Silence is an essential part of the process; don't shy away from it.

#### Practice

- *Wonderings:* Choose someone in your group to read each of the 'wonderings' aloud. Then, take turns briefly reflecting on one of the 'wonderings' that resonates with you personally. After each person shares, hold half a minute of silence. If time allows, go around the group again, with each person reflecting on a different 'wondering.'

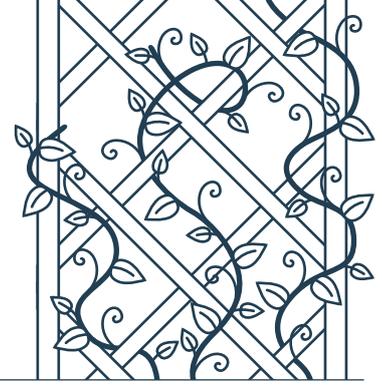
#### Wonderings

- I wonder what today's session stirred within you.
  - I wonder what the example of the stone we held at the beginning of our session unlocks in your imagination.
  - I wonder whether another person has ever changed you by their example.
  - I wonder how seeing real examples of change empowers you to keep trying, even when it's hard.
- 
- *Bible passage (optional):* If you have extra time, you might want to reflect further on this week's Bible passage, *1 Peter 2:4-10*. Start by having one person read the passage aloud slowly. Afterwards, each person can share a word or short phrase from the passage that stands out to them, without offering any explanation. Then, have someone else read the passage aloud again. This time, each person is invited to share briefly, in no more than a minute, why that part of the passage speaks to them.



## CLIMATE JUSTICE & DISCIPLESHIP

# WEEK 3 | EXAMPLE



### GOING DEEPER (OPTIONAL MATERIALS)

#### ◆ Individual practices for the week ahead

The following practices offer a way to reflect on this week's theme and deepen your connection with God, creation, and others. Whether you prefer a quick reflection or a deeper exploration, both are designed to support your discipleship journey. Choose the path that resonates most with you.

#### **Contemplative Practice 1 – Reflection on Creation:**

This week, take some time to reflect on how creation reveals God's love and care. You might do this outdoors in your local park, by looking through a window, or by observing the spaces and systems around you—such as buildings, canals, or paths. Creation includes not only green spaces but also the creativity God has inspired in humanity to design and shape our cities and communities. Consider how both the natural world and the built environment reflect God's provision and call us to live out our discipleship by caring for the earth and all that we've been entrusted with.

#### **Reflection Prompts:**

*What gratitude is stirred in my heart as I engage with creation—whether in nature, in the built environment, or in the people around me?*

*How can I reflect God's love and care for creation in my actions today?*

*Where do I see something in creation—or in the systems or spaces shaped by human creativity—that encourages me to keep striving to make a difference?*

#### **Contemplative Practice 2 – Stewardship Pledge:**

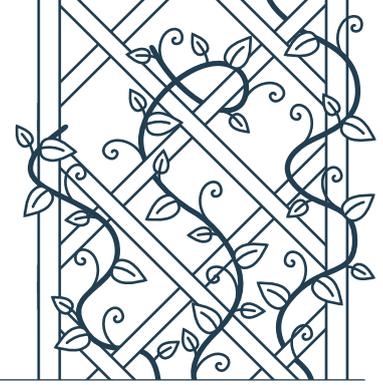
Identify one concrete action inspired by examples we heard about in our session, (or see the next page for some more examples). This could be as simple as committing to spend time in nature weekly, or as intentional as reducing waste. Write your response down as a pledge to yourself, embodying Jesus' example of care for the earth. You might want to finish your time of reflection with the following prayer:

*Holy Spirit, breath of God,  
thank you for the inspiring examples I've engaged with:  
acts of love, courage, and care for creation.  
May these examples guide and strengthen me.  
Let them inspire me to become an example myself,  
living out my discipleship in care for the Earth and for those around me.  
Where I feel small, give me your strength;  
where I am hesitant, grant me your courage.  
Come, Holy Spirit, lead me on. Amen.*



## CLIMATE JUSTICE & DISCIPLESHIP

# WEEK 3 | EXAMPLE



### GOING DEEPER (OPTIONAL MATERIALS)

#### ◆ Stories

As of the end of 2024, nearly half the churches in the Diocese of London—230 in total—are part of the Eco Church Award Scheme organised by the Christian conservation charity A Rocha UK. This scheme, open to the Church of England, United Reformed Churches, and Methodist Church, has inspired participation from 7,500 churches across England. This collective effort represents thousands of Christians committed to caring for God's creation by working towards awards that reflect their stewardship.

One example is St Paul's Marylebone, an estate church that has achieved a Gold Award by asking a simple but profound question: 'How can we make what we already do more sustainable?' Their story is an inspiring model for others: [www.london.anglican.org/articles/st-pauls-marylebone-eco-church-journey](http://www.london.anglican.org/articles/st-pauls-marylebone-eco-church-journey)

#### ◆ Statistics

It's easy to feel that individual actions won't make a difference or that governments aren't moving quickly enough to address the climate crisis. But consider this: provisional data shows that between 1990 – 2023 the UK reduced its greenhouse gas emissions by 53%, largely due to phasing out coal and increasing energy from renewable sources. (More details can be found here: [www.carbonbrief.org/analysis-uk-emissions-in-2023-fell-to-lowest-level-since-1879/](http://www.carbonbrief.org/analysis-uk-emissions-in-2023-fell-to-lowest-level-since-1879/)). This progress didn't happen by chance—it resulted from decades of sustained campaigning by local and environmental groups. A major turning point came with the Climate Change Act (2008), which set legally binding carbon reduction targets. Religious and campaigning groups, including Christian Aid, Tearfund, the Church of England, and the Quakers, played a significant role in advocating for this critical legislation and continue to push for further action today.

#### ◆ Further resources

There are many ways to engage further in the work of climate action and creation care:

- Faith for the Climate ([faithfortheclimate.org.uk](http://faithfortheclimate.org.uk)) and Christian Aid ([www.christianaid.org.uk/our-work/policy/cop-un-climate-change-conference](http://www.christianaid.org.uk/our-work/policy/cop-un-climate-change-conference)) offer resources and opportunities to join global advocacy campaigns.
- A Rocha UK ([ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/](http://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/)) and Caring for God's Acre ([www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/](http://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/)) provide tools to help churches care for local communities, church buildings, and surrounding land, promoting biodiversity and incorporating climate action into weekly church life.
- The Christianity and Climate Change film series by Tearfund is a great short course to do or dip into. The nine-part series addresses topics such as the biblical view of creation, the impact of climate change on poverty, and how churches can engage in climate action: [www.tearfund.org/campaigns/christianity-and-climate-change-film-series-](http://www.tearfund.org/campaigns/christianity-and-climate-change-film-series-)

By participating in these initiatives, we can be part of the collective effort to safeguard God's creation for future generations.

# CLIMATE JUSTICE & DISCIPLESHIP

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## WEEK 4 - ACCOUNTABILITY





## CLIMATE JUSTICE AND DISCIPLESHIP

# WEEK 4 | ACCOUNTABILITY

### BACKGROUND

*[Jesus] cried out, 'Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, "Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water."'*  
John 7:37-38 (NRSV) - full reading: John 7:37-39

#### ◆ Theme: Accountability

**On Calvary, Jesus faced the ultimate reckoning for the brokenness of the world, bridging the distance between us and God.**

Throughout this offering, we have explored how individuals and church communities can pray and act to safeguard the environment. Yet, in the face of the immense damage caused by governments and multinational corporations, it's easy to feel overwhelmed or powerless.

This week, we reflect on accountability—not just as individuals, but collectively. Accountability means calling ourselves, others, and institutions to honour their commitments, persistently urging that promises translate into meaningful action. It is about using our voices, together, to apply pressure and insist that change is necessary. Like the persistence of a river carving new pathways through the land, our collective efforts, voices, and prayers can shape the future.

Though we may feel small in the face of this crisis, we trust that God's power works through us. In a world where wealth and influence are often concentrated in the hands of a few, discipleship calls us to radical hope, obedience, and persistence. Together, we continue to demand justice, trusting that God's work of renewal is

greater than we can imagine. No act of faithfulness is wasted in God's hands, and even our small contributions join the collective force needed to confront the climate crisis.

#### ◆ Preparation

For this week's online session, each participant needs:

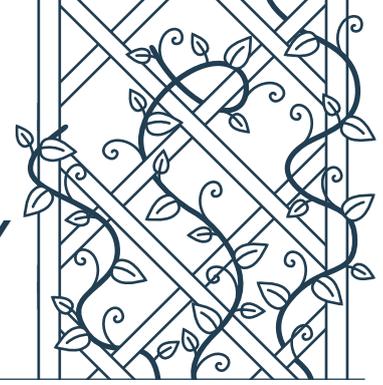
- A bowl or glass of water.
- A copy of the liturgy ([page 4](#)).
- A copy of this handout ([page 23-26](#)).
- A candle (if meeting as a group, only one is needed).

For those meeting as a group, it might be helpful to have sticky notes and pens available for the Earth Examen practice.

#### ◆ After the online session

On the next page of this handout, you will find:

- A listening practice for group sharing after the session.
- Individual practices for going deeper during the week.
- Further stories, statistics and resources.



## PRACTICE: LISTENING GROUP

This outline is designed for group sharing after the online session. Unlike a discussion group, a listening group encourages a different approach. Instead of debating or waiting for a turn to speak, participants are invited to share in a reflective and open-hearted way, framed by moments of silence. The focus is not on solving problems or offering advice but on sitting with our questions and trusting in God's presence throughout the process. Groups can choose to stay together as one large group or divide into smaller ones. Sharing is voluntary; everyone is invited to speak, but it's perfectly fine to pass if you prefer not to.

### Principles

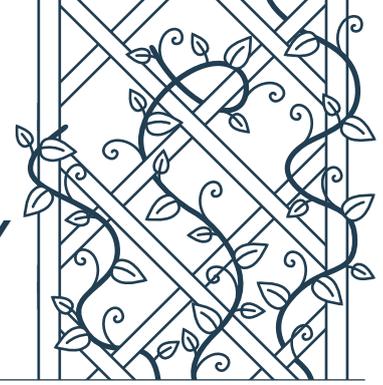
- *Share honestly:* Reflect on your experience of God in life's circumstances. No need for 'perfect' faith.
- *Listen deeply:* Let each person share without interruption. Absorb and reflect on what is said.
- *Avoid judgement:* Refrain from offering advice or judgement.
- *Embrace silence:* Silence is an essential part of the process; don't shy away from it.

### Practice

- *Wonderings:* Choose someone in your group to read each of the 'wonderings' aloud. Then, take turns briefly reflecting on one of the 'wonderings' that resonates with you personally. After each person shares, hold half a minute of silence. If time allows, go around the group again, with each person reflecting on a different 'wondering.'

### Wonderings

- I wonder what today's session stirred within you.
  - I wonder how the water we reflected on at the beginning of this session spoke to you and the theme of accountability.
  - I wonder what kind of world you hope to see in fifty years and what that means for you today.
  - I wonder how it feels to hold yourself or others accountable toward creating that future.
- 
- *Bible passage (optional):* If you have extra time, you might want to reflect further on this week's Bible passage, *John 7:37-39*. Start by having one person read the passage aloud slowly. Afterwards, each person can share a word or short phrase from the passage that stands out to them, without offering any explanation. Then, have someone else read the passage aloud again. This time, each person is invited to share briefly, in no more than a minute, why that part of the passage speaks to them.



## GOING DEEPER (OPTIONAL MATERIALS)

### ◆ Individual practices for the week ahead

The following practices offer a way to reflect on this week's theme and deepen your connection with God, creation, and others. Whether you prefer a quick reflection or a deeper exploration, both are designed to support your discipleship journey. Choose the path that resonates most with you.

#### **Contemplative Practice 1 – Nature Reflection:**

This week, spend some time outdoors or observe nature through a window. Reflect on the harm caused by human systems—corporations, governments, and industries—and how their choices impact creation's balance. Let this time stir a sense of responsibility to challenge and hold others accountable for their role in caring for the earth.

#### **Reflection Prompt:**

*What gratitude is stirred in my heart as I engage with creation?*

*What part of creation today reminds me of the harm caused by human systems?*

*How can I join my voice with those challenging injustice and support actions that restore creation?*

#### **Contemplative Practice 2 – Reflecting on your Climate Journey:**

To grow in holding ourselves and others accountable for climate justice, reflecting on our own journey with climate change so far can be helpful.

#### **Step 1: Reflect on Key Moments**

Think back to when you first became aware of climate justice. What events or experiences shaped your understanding? Were there specific moments, like a conversation, article, or film, that had a profound impact on you? Sit quietly and recall these moments.

#### **Step 2: Write Your 'Climate Story'**

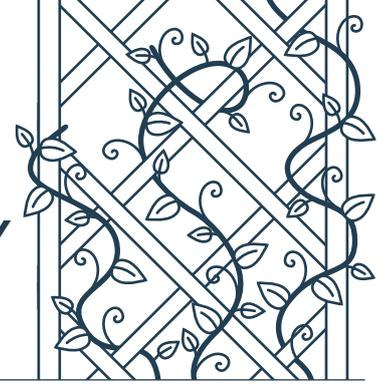
Write down your 'climate story,' focusing on the moments that influenced your understanding. How have your views evolved? How does your faith inspire you to care for the earth? What actions might you feel called to take?

#### **Step 3: Accountability**

How might you use your story to help hold others accountable for their actions regarding the environment? What steps can you take to encourage accountability within your family, workplace or wider community?

#### **Step 4: Closing Reflection**

Sit quietly for a moment, allowing any new insights or actions to emerge. You may wish to close with a prayer or affirmation: *'Creator God, guide me in caring for the earth and inspire me to act justly.'*



## GOING DEEPER (OPTIONAL MATERIALS)

### ◆ Stories

It's easy to recognise the direct role of investment companies and fossil fuel corporations in funding oil extraction and contributing to climate change. One of the most challenging but necessary tasks a church can undertake is to examine its finances: What are we invested in? Who holds our current account, and where do they invest? Christian activists urge us all to take a hard look at our pensions, bank accounts, and, importantly, the investments of our parish church funds. Organisations like the Greenbelt Festival and The Hazelnut Community Farm (a pioneer church) have already made the switch to more ethical options.

As we explore accountability this week, it's not only about reflecting on our own financial choices but also holding institutions to account for their role in supporting practices that harm the planet.

### ◆ Statistics

JustMoney Movement has calculated that Barclays, HSBC, Santander, NatWest, and Lloyds have provided \$556 billion to the fossil fuel industry since the Paris Climate Agreement. In 2023, the hottest year on record, these five banks collectively financed companies expanding fossil fuel extraction with nearly \$25 billion. The expansion of oil and gas is incompatible with the goal of limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees, as stated by the UN, the International Energy Agency, and thousands of leading climate scientists.

The former Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, said:

*'Banks are very understandably seen as institutions we need to be able to trust. What we are asking is that the main High Street banks show themselves to be fully worthy of that trust by playing their part in creating a future we can trust—a future in which our lethal dependence on fossil fuels will at last be put behind us.'*

### ◆ Further resources

You can find support in changing your personal banking to a more ethical setup through the Big Switch campaign, a collaboration between Operation Noah, JustMoney Movement, and Just Love, with the backing of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland. They offer an expert guide to help you assess your options. Fortunately, there are a great many ethical banking options available to individuals: [justmoney.org.uk/the-big-bank-switch](https://justmoney.org.uk/the-big-bank-switch)

For churches and dioceses, the options are more limited at present. However, JustMoney Movement provides a Greener Fairer Banking Guide that can help you get started on the journey to more ethical finance: [justmoney.org.uk/resources/new-greener-fairer-banking-guide](https://justmoney.org.uk/resources/new-greener-fairer-banking-guide)

For help with switching banks, you can also email: [creation.care@london.anglican.org](mailto:creation.care@london.anglican.org)

# CLIMATE JUSTICE & DISCIPLESHIP

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## WEEK 5 - HOPE





## CLIMATE JUSTICE AND DISCIPLESHIP

# WEEK 5 | HOPE

### BACKGROUND

*When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side.*

John 20:19-20 (NRSV) - full reading: John 20:19-23

#### ◆ Theme: Hope

**At Easter, Jesus gave us hope that nothing can separate us from him.**

As Christians, we often envision the resurrection of Jesus as a moment of glory, perfection, and joy. However, for his earliest followers, that first Easter was filled with confusion, sorrow, and fear. When Jesus appeared to his disciples, he greeted them with 'Peace be with you,' meeting their doubts with the offer to touch his resurrected body, scarred by the nails of his crucifixion.

The resurrection was the ultimate proof of God's victory over death, but it was also a resurrection marked by the scars of human suffering. Jesus' bodily resurrection reminds us that our faith is embodied—grounded in the physical world and lived through our bodies. We worship a God who experienced life in its fullness—birth, death, joy, and sorrow.

Jesus' real presence on Earth highlights the sacredness of creation and calls us to live in the hope of the resurrection—not as something only for the future, but something that begins now. Our hope is not that we will save the world on our own, nor that we are passive recipients of salvation,

but that God, through Christ, walks with us in all things. How, then, do we live out this hope in practical, meaningful ways, especially in the fight for climate justice?

#### ◆ Preparation

For this week's online session, each participant needs:

- A seed or flower from outside.
- A copy of the liturgy ([page 4](#)).
- A copy of this handout ([page 28-31](#)).
- A candle (if meeting as a group, only one is needed).

For those meeting as a group, it might be helpful to have sticky notes and pens available for the Earth Examen practice.

#### ◆ After the online session

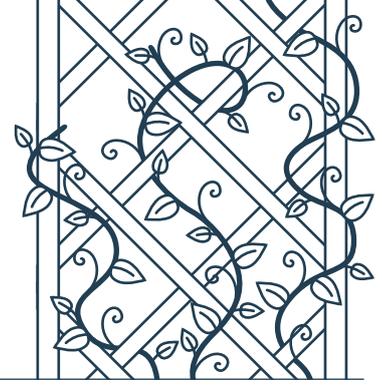
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## CLIMATE JUSTICE & DISCIPLESHIP

# WEEK 5 | HOPE



### PRACTICE: LISTENING GROUP

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#### Principles

- *Share honestly:* Reflect on your experience of God in life's circumstances. No need for 'perfect' faith.
- *Listen deeply:* Let each person share without interruption. Absorb and reflect on what is said.
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- *Embrace silence:* Silence is an essential part of the process; don't shy away from it.

#### Practice

- *Wonderings:* Choose someone in your group to read each of the 'wonderings' aloud. Then, take turns briefly reflecting on one of the 'wonderings' that resonates with you personally. After each person shares, hold half a minute of silence. If time allows, go around the group again, with each person reflecting on a different 'wondering.'

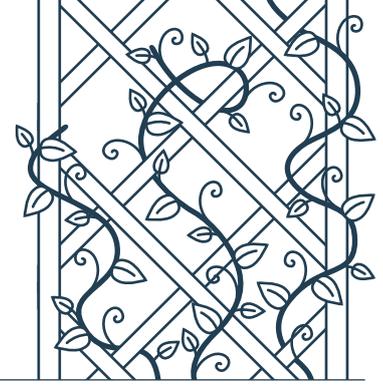
#### Wonderings

- I wonder what today's session stirred within you.
  - I wonder how the seeds and flowers we contemplated stir hope within you, in the face of the climate crisis.
  - I wonder how knowing that God is invested in this planet changes how you feel about caring for the Earth.
  - I wonder how you translate your hope into action for those already suffering from climate change.
- 
- *Bible passage (optional):* If you have extra time, you might want to reflect further on this week's Bible passage, *John 20:19-23*. Start by having one person read the passage aloud slowly. Afterwards, each person can share a word or short phrase from the passage that stands out to them, without offering any explanation. Then, have someone else read the passage aloud again. This time, each person is invited to share briefly, in no more than a minute, why that part of the passage speaks to them.



## CLIMATE JUSTICE & DISCIPLESHIP

# WEEK 5 | HOPE



### GOING DEEPER (OPTIONAL MATERIALS)

#### ◆ Individual practices for the week ahead

The following practices offer a way to reflect on this week's theme and deepen your connection with God, creation, and others. Whether you prefer a quick reflection or a deeper exploration, both are designed to support your discipleship journey. Choose the path that resonates most with you.

#### **Contemplative Practice 1 – Nature Reflection:**

Spend some time observing nature, whether outside or through a window, noticing both the signs of decay and the signs of renewal. Let this time renew your hope in God's restorative work in the world.

#### **Reflection Prompt:**

*What signs of hope do I see in creation today?*

*How can I carry this hope into my daily life, trusting in God's restoration of all things?*

#### **Contemplative Practice 2 – Reflection on Hope:**

Have another go at the Earth Examen practice this week, focusing on the theme of Hope:

#### **Glory**

Reflect on where you have seen God's hope in the world, despite the challenges of the climate crisis.

*Where have I seen glimpses of hope in creation today?*

*How did I respond with hope, even when the situation seemed overwhelming?*

#### **Groan**

Lament the loss and devastation caused by the climate crisis, while remembering your hope in God's faithfulness to restore and renew all things.

*How can I hold on to hope amidst the despair of the climate crisis?*

#### **Grow**

Choose one action of hope this week: it might be planting something, supporting an environmental initiative, or sharing your commitment to care for creation with others.

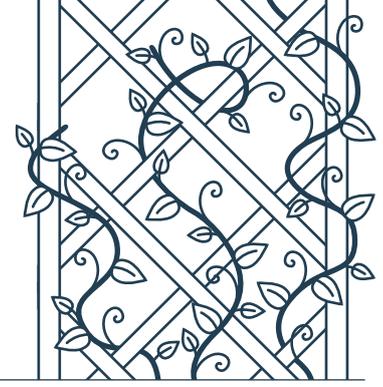
*How can I live out the hope I believe in this week?*

*What steps can I take to foster hope in others and in creation?*



## CLIMATE JUSTICE & DISCIPLESHIP

# WEEK 5 | HOPE



### GOING DEEPER (OPTIONAL MATERIALS)

#### ◆ Stories

Hope can be an elusive thing in these troubled times, yet for the 230 churches in the Diocese of London engaged with the Eco Church Award Scheme, hope can be grasped through action. Our churches have taken action through campaigning: churches from Westminster joined the 'Restore Nature Now' march: [www.london.anglican.org/articles/westminster-churches-join-call-to-restore-nature-now](http://www.london.anglican.org/articles/westminster-churches-join-call-to-restore-nature-now)

Our clergy have highlighted and spoken at General Synod about the insidious connection between climate and racial justice: [www.london.anglican.org/articles/racism-and-climate-change-the-deep-connections-behind-their-unequal-impacts](http://www.london.anglican.org/articles/racism-and-climate-change-the-deep-connections-behind-their-unequal-impacts)

Two young men from one of our Willesden churches are inspiring their congregation by using locally grown produce, including a churchyard vine, to create communion wine: [www.london.anglican.org/articles/l-o-a-f-and-wine/](http://www.london.anglican.org/articles/l-o-a-f-and-wine/)

More and more of our churches are taking practical steps to reduce their carbon footprint: [www.london.anglican.org/articles/moving-towards-net-zero-carbon-top-10-things-your-church-can-do](http://www.london.anglican.org/articles/moving-towards-net-zero-carbon-top-10-things-your-church-can-do)

#### ◆ Statistics

Hope is out there—we just need to look for the seeds starting to germinate. The EU reduced its carbon emissions by 8% on average in 2023, and the UK by 5%! Europe is now emitting less carbon than it was 60 years ago. It is highly likely that within the next few years we will be emitting the lowest amount of carbon in living memory.

Reforestation projects have been shown to reduce average temperatures in a region by significant amounts, and the UK government is committed to investing £239 million in reforestation efforts both domestically and globally.

Closer to home, churches in three deaneries in Westminster have come together to share expertise, resources, and advice around the journey to net zero carbon. 21 churches are now members of the Westminster Net Zero Forum: [westminster-net-zero-forum.my.canva.site/home](http://westminster-net-zero-forum.my.canva.site/home)

#### ◆ Further resources

The Fieldnotes Podcast by A Rocha explores environmental challenges and hopeful solutions through conversations with experts in conservation, science, theology, and the arts, always ending with a reflection on hope: [arocha.org/en/field-notes-podcast/](http://arocha.org/en/field-notes-podcast/)

While action can foster hope, we cannot ignore the reality of living in a time of crisis. Humanity's impact on God's creation has caused immense and often irreversible harm. The Revd Hannah Malcom has written extensively on climate anxiety from a Christian perspective, and her 2021 reflection for Theos remains an excellent introduction to the subject: [www.theosthinktank.co.uk/comment/2021/10/08/theology-and-climate-grief](http://www.theosthinktank.co.uk/comment/2021/10/08/theology-and-climate-grief)

The Hazelnut Community, a pioneer church in the Diocese of Bristol, has produced a webinar on coping with climate anxiety: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=vGdixjk62o](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vGdixjk62o)

For those struggling to find hope — or supporting others who are — the Climate Psychology Alliance provides valuable resources: [www.climatepsychologyalliance.org/](http://www.climatepsychologyalliance.org/)



## APPENDIX

# CLIMATE JUSTICE IN CONTEXT: STORIES FROM OUR PARTNER DIOCESES (ALMA)



### Read more about the ALMA Partnership:

Lent campaign	<a href="http://www.london.anglican.org/lentappeal2025">www.london.anglican.org/lentappeal2025</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.almalink.org">www.almalink.org</a>
Facebook	ALMA London
X	@ALMALondonD
Quarterly Newsletter	<a href="#">Sign up to receive email updates from ALMA</a>
ALMA Morning Prayer	Join us each Wednesday through <a href="https://tinyurl.com/ALMA-Partnership">https://tinyurl.com/ALMA-Partnership</a>
ALMA Sunday 2025	Sunday 20 July in St Paul's Cathedral, 5.30pm
Further Information	Revd Sheenagh Burrell, ALMA London Co-ordinator <a href="mailto:almacoordinator@london.anglican.org">almacoordinator@london.anglican.org</a>



## CLIMATE JUSTICE AND DISCIPLESHIP

# CLIMATE JUSTICE IN CONTEXT: STORIES FROM OUR PARTNER DIOCESES (ALMA)

### ◆ Background

The Diocese of London has been in a Companion Link partnership with the Anglican Church in Mozambique and Angola since 1995. These countries, particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, provide a unique context for reflection during Lent as we consider Climate Justice and the challenge of living out the Fifth Mark of Mission: *to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the Earth*. Exploring the challenges our partners face and their responses can inspire our own discipleship.

### ◆ Mozambique:

#### ***The third most vulnerable country in Africa to climate change (UN)***

Mozambique contributes only 0.02% of global carbon dioxide emissions, yet it is among the countries most severely affected by climate change.

Over the past 50 years, the average temperature in Mozambique has risen by 0.2°C per decade, increasing the frequency of extreme heat and extended dry spells. While total annual rainfall has remained relatively stable, it now comes in heavier and less predictable downpours, turning dry seasons into droughts and rainy seasons into floods.

Since 1980, tropical cyclones have grown increasingly severe, with Mozambique

ranked as the country most affected by weather events in 2019. In recent years, cyclones have become more frequent: three struck in both 2023 and 2024, and two have already hit in 2025.

With 60% of the population living along the 2,500 km coastline, rising sea levels (up more than 3 cm since 1961) and storm surges threaten major cities and critical infrastructure. Inland, densely populated provinces like Zambezia, Nampula, Sofala, and Maputo face flooding from rivers that overflow during heavy rains. These challenges disrupt economic activity, biodiversity, and access to clean drinking water.

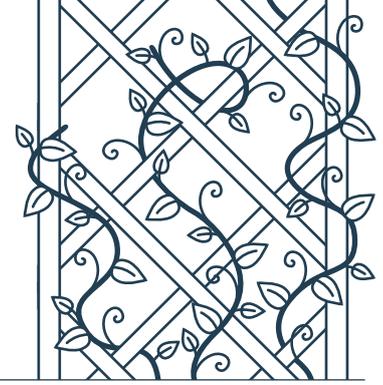
Agriculture, which accounts for 25% of Mozambique's GDP, is particularly vulnerable. Smallholder farmers produce 95% of the country's food, relying on rain-fed fields to grow crops like maize, which is highly drought-sensitive. This year, both drought and cyclones have devastated harvests, driving up food prices and straining rural livelihoods.





## CLIMATE JUSTICE & DISCIPLESHIP

# APPENDIX: ALMA



Unpaved roads, which make up 80% of Mozambique’s transport network, are often damaged or rendered impassable by flooding, isolating rural communities and hampering the distribution of goods, including food.

### Cyclone Chido & Dikeledi in Nampula

While preparing this reflection, Cyclones Chido (December 2024) and Dikeledi (January 2025) struck northern Mozambique, devastating Cabo Delgado and Nampula provinces. These areas, already grappling with an Islamist insurgency since 2017 that has displaced over a million people, have suffered extensive damage.

Venerable Francisco Bulaque, Archdeacon of Cabo Delgado, reports that 17 of 19 congregation buildings were destroyed, including Pemba Church, which had previously served as a distribution centre for internally displaced people (IDPs). Chimoio Primary School, under construction with support from St Mary with St Alban in Teddington, also suffered significant damage.



*This is the home of one of our congregants in the Miezi IDPs community. The family has been displaced three times—first due to insurgency, and now by a cyclone.*

### Green Anglicans and coastal erosion in Inhambane Diocese

Inhambane Diocese, situated along Mozambique’s Indian Ocean coast, battles severe coastal erosion. The diocesan headquarters and Pro-Cathedral sit precariously close to the ocean, which encroaches further each year.



Revd Aurelio Uqueio, the Green Anglican lead for Southern Mozambique, has spearheaded mangrove replanting initiatives to protect the coast. These efforts, supported by ALMA and led enthusiastically by Bishop Emanuel, include interim measures like using sand-filled tyres to stabilise the shoreline while mangrove beds are established.

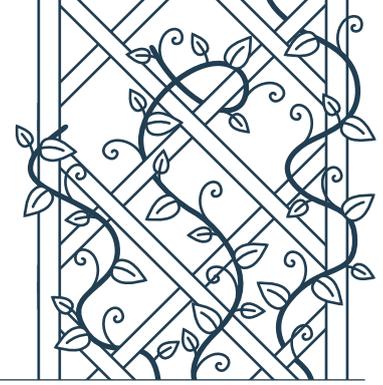
The Green Anglicans also engage in urban tree planting, litter collection, and clearing culverts in cities and beaches. Liturgical celebrations, including baptisms, confirmations, weddings and ordinations, often include planting trees as acts of thanksgiving and commitment to creation care. Just imagine our newly ordained deacons leaving St Paul’s Cathedral with a tree to plant!





## CLIMATE JUSTICE & DISCIPLESHIP

# APPENDIX: ALMA



### ◆ **Angola: Worst drought in 40 years**

Southern Angola is facing its worst drought in 40 years, compounded by six years of poor harvests. Crop failures have caused food prices, such as maize flour, beans, and vegetable oil, to triple since last year. The drought, worsened by the El Niño climate phenomenon, has also impacted other parts of Southern Africa, including Mozambique's Pungue region.

In Cunene Province, food insecurity has led to widespread malnutrition, with 4 million children affected. Severe water shortages have left 1.2 million people without access to clean water, forcing many families to migrate within Angola or to Namibia in search of food and work.



The Missionary Diocese of Central & Southern Angola is addressing the crisis by:

- Promoting nutrition education for families and caregivers of children under five in Ondjiva and Namacunde parishes.
- Providing emergency aid to those displaced by drought and hunger.

### ◆ **How can we respond this Lent?**

The Diocese of Nampula has launched an appeal to assist those who have lost everything in the cyclones. However, they have not sought help to rebuild the 17 churches, priests' houses, Chimoio School,

or accommodation for the elderly that were destroyed. *Could we consider making a donation towards this rebuilding effort?*

Inhambane Green Anglicans are leading trailblazing work, spreading the message of creation care through their community ministry and activism. *Could we provide a donation to help them expand their reach?*

In Cunene, Anglicans are actively reaching out to their community in Southern Angola. *Could we offer a donation to support Namacunde in increasing the impact of their ministry?*

ALMA suggests dividing donations as follows: 60%: Cyclone emergency response in Nampula, 10%: Green Anglican projects in Inhambane, 30%: Drought relief in Southern Angola.

**Do you feel called to respond, individually or as a church?**

To financially support the projects mentioned, visit [www.london.anglican.org/lentappeal2025](http://www.london.anglican.org/lentappeal2025)

### ◆ **ALMA Lent prayer**

*We praise you, Lord, for the beauty of your Earth, but confess we have taken it for granted, leaving others to bear the cost of our lifestyle choices. Renew a right spirit within us.*

*As we see the impact of the climate crisis on our partners - through cyclones, floods, and droughts - may we respond by living more thoughtfully, aware of the impact of our choices, this Lent and always.*

*Make us advocates of hope and agents of transformation for the sake of the world you love so much.*

*Thank you for taking part in this  
Lent offering!*



[Click here](#) or scan QR code  
to share your feedback

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[www.lent2025.wayoflife.london](http://www.lent2025.wayoflife.london)

**For more Discipleship and Spiritual Formation resources, visit:**

[www.wayoflife.london](http://www.wayoflife.london)

**To donate to the 2025 Lent Appeal, visit:**

[www.london.anglican.org/lentappeal2025](http://www.london.anglican.org/lentappeal2025)

