

Notes For Ministers

Ritual Space

If possible, arrange the chairs in a circle (or a shape that the people are facing others)
Create a central space, if possible, for the elements that will be brought forward.

Music – All composed by Newfoundlanders.

Come, Lift Up Your Voices – Beginning and Ending

Country Rose – composition by Bill Brennan

O, What A Gift – Before and After the Readings

We Remember Your Mercy (Spanish and English) – response to three of the Readings

God, Your Gifts To Us Are Many – Refrain for the Water Ritual

Readings – Compiled adaptations from various sources:

First Reading / Primera Lectura:

Job 12:7-9;

Bernard of Clairvaux, *Letters of Bernard* 106:107;

Romans 1:20;

Wisdom 13:5.

Second Reading / Segunda lectura:

St. Athanasius, *Contra Gentes*, 42;

Regina Couper, *The Art of Soul*;

Thomas Berry;

Denis Edwards, *Jesus and the Cosmos*.

Third Reading / Tercera Lectura:

Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops,

A Pastoral on the Christian Ecological Imperative;

Mary Robinson, *Introduction: Key points on Climate Justice*;

Pope Francis, *Audience n 21 May 2014*.

Fourth Reading / Cuarta Lectura:

Psalm 104 (adapted), *Psalms for Morning and Evening Prayer*.

Enlarged copies of the Readings are attached for the four readers.

Water Rite

If possible, have a significant water “container” in a place people will be able to gather in twos or more. If possible, the water brought into the ritual space during the **Opening Rite** could be slowly poured into this container at the beginning of the Water Ritual.

Blessing: The ritual gesture of blessing is to extend both hands. The leader could model this by extending both hands – thus having someone hold the book.

Opening Rite

Call to Prayer:

Ringing of a prayer gong or bell (3 times)

Dance of the Elements:

During the Opening Refrain, various elements will be danced into our presence ... a globe, chimes, fire, water, and anything else that reminds the local community of its environment. It may be appropriate to remain seated.

Refrain During the Dance:

Continue to sing the refrain until all of the elements are placed

Come, Lift Up Your Voices

Mona Rumboldt, RSM
Newfoundland

$\text{♩} = 63$

Voice

The musical score is written for voice in 6/8 time with a tempo of quarter note = 63. It consists of two staves. The first staff contains the first line of music with lyrics: 'Come, come, lift up your voi - ces All of cre - a - tion u - nite in the song.' The second staff contains the second line of music with lyrics: 'Praise God, source of all be - ing. Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia'. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: C, F, C, F, C, F, G7 on the first staff; C, Gm, F, C, F, Gm, F, C7sus, C7, F on the second staff.

Come, come, lift up your voi - ces All of cre - a - tion u - nite in the song.

Praise God, source of all be - ing. Al - le - lu - ia Al - le - lu - ia

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Welcoming All:

Leader: Let us turn to the East.

Wait until all have turned to the East

Peoples and Creatures; Lands and Waters
We welcome you from the East into our presence.

All: **Come, Lift Up Your Voices (Sing refrain once)**

Leader: Let us turn to the South.
Wait until all have turned to the South

Peoples and Creatures; Lands and Waters
We welcome you from the South into our presence.

All: *Come, Lift Up Your Voices* (Sing refrain once)

Leader: Let us turn to the West.
Wait until all have turned to the West

Peoples and Creatures; Lands and Waters
We welcome you from the West into our presence.

All: *Come, Lift Up Your Voices* (Sing refrain once)

Leader: Let us turn to the North.
Wait until all have turned to the North

Peoples and Creatures; Lands and Waters
We welcome you from the North into our presence.

All: *Come, Lift Up Your Voices* (Sing refrain once)

Leader: Let us turn to the Center.
Wait until all have turned to the Center

Spirit at the Center of All,
acknowledging that you are always present,
we welcome you in our midst.

All: *Come, Lift Up Your Voices* (Sing refrain once)

Leader sit and, if needed, gesture to community to sit

Reflection:

Photo – Sunset in Newfoundland

Music – *Country Rose* Composed by Bill Brennan; Newfoundland

Sung Prayer:

Leader stand and gesture to community to stand

O What A Gift **Sing twice**

Oh, What a Gift

music - Kathrine Bellamy, RSM
lyrics - Rosemary Ryan, RSM
Newfoundland

♩. = 66

Voice

The musical score is written for voice in 3/4 time with a tempo of quarter note = 66. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff starts with a C7 chord and contains the lyrics 'Oh, What a gift is cre - a - tion'. The second staff starts with a Bb chord and contains 'Beau - ty and life in all that we share'. The third staff starts with an F chord and contains 'In - crease our love and help us re - spect'. The fourth staff starts with a Dm chord and contains 'All en - tru - sted to our care.' Chords are indicated above the notes: C7, F, Dm, Bb, E/A, F, Bb, Gm, C, C7, F, E/A, Bb, A, Dm/C, Bb6, C7, F.

Oh, What a gift is cre - a - tion

6 Beau - ty and life in all that we share

10 In - crease our love and help us re - spect

14 All en - tru - sted to our care.

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Leader sit and, if needed, gesture to community to sit

Readings and Responses

First Reading: See page 9-10

Response:

Silence

Stand **Leader stand and, if needed, gesture to community to stand**

Leader: We proclaim God's presence in all creation.
Our hearts respond in awe, praise and gratitude.

All: ***Recordamos su merced / We remember your Mercy***

Doug Mackey
Newfoundland

$\text{♩} = 84$

Voice

A D D Bm Bm

Re - cor - da - mos su mer - ced, Nos go - za - mos su a - mour Re -

5 G A 7sus A D $\frac{G}{D}$ D

nué - ve - nos en e - spi - ri - tu, O Dios

$\text{♩} = 84$

Voice

A D D Bm Bm

We re - mem - ber your mer - cy, We re - joi - ce in your love, Re -

5 G A 7sus A D $\frac{G}{D}$ D

new us in spi - rit, Oh God

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Leader sit and, if needed, gesture to community to sit

Second Reading: See page 11-12

Response:

Silence

Stand **Leader stand and, if needed, gesture to community to stand**

Leader: We are intimately connected to all of creation,
irrevocably part of the Web of Life.
Ignite your spark within us,
that we may know ourselves as truly human and holy.

All: *Recordamos su merced / We remember your Mercy*

Leader sit and, if needed, gesture to community to sit

Third Reading: See page 13-14

Response:

Silence

Stand **Leader stand and, if needed, gesture to community to stand**

Leader: We have acted with arrogance, greed and pride;
dominating and destroying creation.
Forgive us!!! **(slight pause)**
Teach us to always walk gently upon Earth,
honouring all creation with reverence.

All: *Recordamos su merced / We remember your Mercy*

Leader sit and, if needed, gesture to community to sit

Fourth Reading: See page 15-18

Response: (Immediately stand and sing twice)

Oh, What a Gift

music - Kathrine Bellamy, RSM
lyrics - Rosemary Ryan, RSM
Newfoundland

$\text{♩} = 66$

Voice

C7 F Dm B \flat $\frac{E}{A}$ F

Oh, What a gift is cre - a - tion

6 B \flat Gm C C7

Beau - ty and life in all that we share

10 F $\frac{E}{A}$ B \flat A

In - crease our love and help us re - spect

14 Dm $\frac{Dm}{C}$ B \flat 6 C7 F

All en - tru - sted to our care.

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Water Rite

Invitation to the Water:

If possible, the water brought forward in the “Dance of the Elements” could be poured slowly into a larger vessel.

Leader:

Our God of Creation gives us water to sustain and nourish us.

I invite you to come to the water – alone or with others.

Let your abundant use of this water be refreshing, playful, prayerful, grateful and merciful.

May it remind us that God’s Creation is good; and that we are called to honour, to protect, to reverence all of Creation.

Refrain For Water Ritual: *God, your gifts to us are many*

Continue to sing the refrain until all have come to the Water.

God, Your Gifts To Us Are Many

music - Kathrine Bellamy, RSM
lyrics - Rosemary Ryan, RSM
Newfoundland

♩ = 104

Chords: F, F, $\frac{E}{A}$, B \flat , Gm, C, $\frac{E}{C}$, C, F

Voice

God, your gifts to us are ma - ny, You sur - round us with your care, Help us
re - cog - nize how sa - cred, The un - i - verse we share.

The musical score is written for voice and guitar. It features a 3/4 time signature and a tempo of 104 beats per minute. The key signature has one flat (Bb). The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes. Chords are indicated above the staff.

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Concluding Rite

Blessing: **Stand**

Leader: Let us extend our hands in blessing to the East.

Peoples and Creatures; Lands and Waters
We bless you in the name of the Source of all Creation.

All: Amen.

Leader: Let us extend our hands in blessing to the South.

Peoples and Creatures; Lands and Waters
We bless you in the name of the Source of all Creation.

All: Amen.

Leader: Let us extend our hands in blessing to the West.

Peoples and Creatures; Lands and Waters
We bless you in the name of the Source of all Creation.

All: Amen.

Leader: Let us extend our hands in blessing to the North.

Peoples and Creatures; Lands and Waters
We bless you in the name of the Source of all Creation.

All: Amen.

Leader: Let us extend our hands in blessing over one another.

Spirit at the Center of All, bless us with your abundant goodness.
Send us with mercy and strength to reverence and celebrate all of your
creation.

All: Amen

Closing Song: *Come, Lift Up Your Voices* (Sing refrain twice)

First Reading:

Reflections from Job, Bernard of Clairvaux, Romans, and Wisdom:

Ask the animals, and they will teach you;
the birds of the air, and they will tell you;
ask the plants of earth, and they will teach you;
and the fish of the sea will declare to you. –
Who among all of those does not know
that the hand of God has done this?

Believe one who knows:
You will find something greater in woods than in books.
Trees and stones will teach you
that which you can never learn from masters!

Ever since the creation of the world
God's eternal power and divine nature,
invisible though they are,
have been understood and seen
through the things God has made.

For from the greatness and beauty of created things
comes a corresponding perception of their Creator.

Primera Lectura:

Reflecciones de Job, Bernardo de Clairvaux, Romanos y Sabiduría:

Pregúntale a los animales, y ellos te enseñaran;
As los pájaros del aire, y ellos te lo dirán;
Pregúntale a las plantas de la tierra, y ellas te enseñaran;
Y los peces del mar declararan.-
¿Quién de todos ellos no conoce
Que la mano de Dios ha hecho esto?

Créele al que sabe: Encontrarás algo más grande en bosques que en
libros.
Árboles y piedras te enseñarán
Aquello que nunca podrás aprender de los maestros!

Siempre desde la creación del mundo
El poder eterno de Dios y su divina naturaleza,
Aunque son invisibles,
Han sido comprendidas y vistas
A través de las cosas que Dios ha hecho.

Pues de la grandeza y belleza de las cosas creadas
Viene nuestra percepción de su Creador.

Second Reading:

Reflections from Athanasius, Regina Couper, Thomas Berry,
and Denis Edwards:

Like a musician who has attuned the harp,
and by the artistic blending of low and high and medium tones,
produces a single melody,
so the Wisdom of God, holding the universe as a harp,
adapting things heavenly to things earthly and earthly things to
heavenly,
harmonizes them all,
and makes one world and one world-order
in beauty and harmony.

We are part of each other
woven into Creation's web by a common thread.

The human is the first and only being, other than the Creator,
to bring self-reflective consciousness into the universe story.

Jesus is unlike anyone else, however,
in that in him
we find a radical and complete openness to God's self-giving in grace.
In this one product of evolutionary history,
the cosmos accepts God in a definitive and absolute way.

Jesus Christ in his life and death,
in his grace-filled human reality,
has become a power shaping the whole cosmos.

Segunda Lectura:

Reflecciones de Atanasio, Regina Couper, Thomas Berry y Denis Edwards;

Como un músico que ha afinado el arpa,
Y por la armonía artística de las notas altas, bajas y medias,
produce una única melodía,
de igual manera la Sabiduría de Dios, que sostiene al universo como
una arpa,
adaptando cosas celestiales a cosas terrenas y cosas terrenas a las
celestiales,
las armoniza todas,
y hace un mundo y un orden en el mundo
de belleza y armonía.

Somos todos parte de un todo
Entrelazados en el tejido de la creación por un hilo común.

El ser humano es el primero y único ser, aparte del Creador,
Que aporta conciencia auto-reflexiva a la historia del universo.

Sin embargo, Jesús es diferente a todos los demás,
Pues en él
Encontramos una apertura radical y completa
a la entrega de Dios en su gracia.
En este producto de la evolución de la historia
El cosmos acepta a Dios de una manera definitiva y absoluta.

Jesucristo en su vida y muerte,
En su humana realidad llena de gracia,
Se ha convertido en un poder que da forma a la totalidad del cosmos.

Third Reading

Reflections from the *Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops*, Mary Robinson, and Pope Francis:

God's word is revealed in the natural world,
yet we humans are presently destroying creation.
In this light, the ecological crisis is also a profoundly religious crisis.
In destroying we are limiting our ability to know and love God.

The ecological crisis is a moral issue,
and the responsibility of everyone.

Efforts to ensure respect for human rights in the 21st century must
include protecting the habitat in which human beings coexist.

As Pope Francis says:

“Polluting or destroying the environment is like telling God
one does not like what God created and proclaimed to be good.”

Tercera Lectura:

Reflecciones de *la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos del Canadá*, Mary Robinson y el Papa Francisco;

La Palabra de Dios se revela en el mundo natural,
Sin embargo, nosotros los seres humanos estamos destruyendo la creación.

A la luz de esta afirmación podemos decir que la crisis ecológica es también una profunda crisis religiosa.

Al destruir estamos limitando nuestra habilidad de conocer y amar a Dios.

La crisis ecológica es un asunto moral,
Y la responsabilidad de todos .

Los esfuerzos que se hacen para asegurar el respeto a los derechos humanos en el siglo 21 deben incluir la protección del lugar donde los seres humanos habitan.

Como dice el Papa Francisco:

“Contaminar o destruir el ambiente es como decirle a Dios que a uno no le gusta lo que Dios ha creado y proclamado como bueno.”

Fourth Reading (This psalm requires vigor and imaginative proclamation)

A Reading adapted from Psalm 104

I will bless you, God my God! You fill the world with awe.
You dress yourself in light, in rich, majestic light.

You stretched the sky like a tent, built your house beyond the rain.
You ride upon the clouds, the wind becomes your wings,
the storm becomes your herald, your servants, bolts of light.

You made Earth solid, fixed it for good.
You made the sea a cloak, covering hills and all.

At your command the sea fled your thunder,
swept over mountains, down the valleys to its place.
You set its limits, never to drown Earth again.

You feed springs that feed brooks, rushing down ravines,
water for wild beasts, for wild asses to drink.
Birds nest nearby and sing among the leaves.

You drench the hills with rain from heaven.
You nourish Earth with what you create.

You make grass grow for cattle, make plants grow for people,
food to eat from Earth, and wine to warm the heart,
oil to glisten on faces and bread for bodily strength.

In Lebanon God planted trees, the flourishing cedar.
Sparrows nest in the branches, the stork in treetops.
High crags for wild goats, rock holes for badgers.

Your moon knows when to rise, your sun when to set.
Your darkness brings on night when wild beasts prowl.
The young lions roar to you in search of prey.
They slink off to dens to rest at daybreak,
Then, people rise to work until daylight fades.

I watch the sea – wide and deep, filled with fish – large and small.
All look to you for food when they are hungry;
you provide it and they feed.
You open your hand, they feast; You turn away, they fear.

God, how fertile your genius! You shape each thing,
You fill the universe with what you do.
Let God delight in creating; let God's glory endure.

Let us sing to our God, make music for God as long as we live.
Let our song give joy to God – who is joy to us.

We bless you, God! Hallelujah!

Response: (Immediately stand and sing twice)

Cuarta Lectura: (Este salmo requiere ser proclamado de manera creativa y con vigor)

Una lectura adaptada del Salmo 104

Te bendeciré, Dios, mi Dios! Tu llenas la tierra con admiración.
Te vistes de luz, en luz rica y majestuosa.

Extendiste el cielo como una carpa, construiste tu casa más allá de la lluvia.

Viajas sobre las nubes, el viento son tus alas,
La tormenta es tu heraldo, tus siervos, ráfagas de luz.

Hiciste a la Tierra sólida, la fijaste para siempre.
Hiciste del mar un manto, cubriendo montes y todo.

A tu mandato el mar huyó del trueno,
Barrió sobre las montañas, bajó a los valles hasta su lugar.
Fijaste sus límites, para que no ahogara a la tierra jamás.

Alimentas a manantiales que alimentan arroyos,
que corren por las quebradas,
Agua para bestias salvajes, bebida para asnos salvajes.
Pájaros anidan alrededor y cantan entre las hojas.

Empapas las colinas con lluvia del cielo.
Nutres a la Tierra con lo que creas.

Haces crecer el pasto para el ganado,
haces que crezcan plantas para la gente,
Alimento de la Tierra, que comemos, y vino para calentar el corazón,
Óleo que brille en los rostros y pan para fortalecer los cuerpos.

En el Líbano Dios plantó árboles, el cedro frondoso.

Gorriones anidan en sus ramas, cigüeñas en sus copas.
Altos peñascos para cabras salvajes, hoyos en las rocas para tejones.

Tu luna sabe cuándo elevarse, tu sol cuándo ponerse.
Tu oscuridad trae la noche cuando rondan las bestias salvajes.
Los leones cachorros rugen en busca de presa.
Se escabullen a sus cubiles a descansar al amanecer,
Cuando se levanta la gente a trabajar hasta la puesta del sol.
Contemplo el mar—hondo y ancho, lleno de peces—
grandes y pequeños.
Todos confían en ti para su alimento cuando sienten hambre;
Tu se los provees y ellos comen.
Abres tu mano, lo celebran; te alejas, ellos temen.

Dios, ¡cuán fértil tu genio! Das forma a cada cosa,
Llenas el universo con tu obra.
Que la gloria de Dios perdure; y Dios se regocije creando.
Cantemos a nuestro Dios, hagamos música para nuestro Dios todos los
días de nuestra vida.

Que mi canto de gozo a mi Dios—que es gozo para mi.
¡Te bendigo Dios! ¡Aleluya!