Season of Creation 2025

FLORA & FAUNA

COSMOS

OCEANS

STORM

Blessing of Animals



For Anglican liturgy that focuses on the created world, see https://anglicanprayerbook.nz/
Thanksgiving for Creation and Redemption on page 456.







Call to Worship

In the beginning was the Word The Word was with God and was God and all of life came from the Word.

Light

Earth

Life

Planets

Solar systems

Galaxies

Black holes

Quarks

Matter

Non matter

Infinite

Beyond

Everything turning, moving, spinning, dancing patterns across the sky Created.

Good.

May we come together as people made of star dust and the breath of God.

Confession

Sometimes we forget that we are part of something greater
Part of an intricate
and complex world
Beloved by the Creator

We do not live as if we are loved
We do not love as we are commanded to love
We do not treasure the rest of the world as part of your creation
Forgive us.

Know that Jesus, the Word present at the beginning of creation, and God, Creator of the whole universe, desires us to be close and complete. Know you are beloved and forgiven. Go and love others

Intercession

Beloved Word we praise you for the wonder and glory of your creation, its beauty, its mystery, its joy and reflection of you.

Help us to always praise you

We pray for our universe and the earth which resides within it.

Help us to always care for it

We pray for the people who make decisions that directly impact on the wellbeing of our planet

Help them to make wise choices

We pray for the humans you love, the people we forget or don't see. The hungry, the homeless, the rejected, the lonely, the unwanted.

Help us to see them and to help them

Season of Creation 2025



The main themes highlighted here come from the Uniting Church of Victoria, Australia. Original services are at https://seasonofcreation.com/calendar/

Intergen Australia will produce intergenerational resources in due course https://intergen.org.au/ resources

See Season of Creation for ecumenical ideas connected to the broad theme of season of creation https://seasonofcreation.org/

Engage Worship <u>www.engageworship.org</u> has a huge amount of resources for powerpoint, songs, lament and climate issues.

Strandz has some good links to worship ideas and videos https://www.strandz.org.nz/





Season of Creation Connection Ideas

FLORA & FAUNA

Do a tidy up of church grounds or create small intergenerational groups to help people care for their properties. Invite people to bring pet food to donate to an animal shelter

OCEAN

Do a beach clean up and/or have a picnic at a local beach. Check out Just Kai https:// justkai.org.nz/ and WWF https://wwf.org.nz/sustainable-fishing for information on slave free and sustainable fishing.

COSMOS

Consider doing a group trip to a Stardome or find a local enthusiast who has a telescope or go up a hill on clear evening and watch the stars come up and worship together.

STORM

Invite people share "stormy" times in their lives and how they experienced <u>God</u>.

SEASONAL IDEAS

Reflective take home booklets with scripture, prayer activities and practical ideas to engage with the theme. Ensure they are suitable for a wide range of ages/stages

Collaborative Worship Decor - decide on symbols for the different weeks and add them as part of worship

Daily or weekly social media or email prompts for reflection

Season of Creation Worship Ideas

FLORA & FAUNA

Create floral arrangements or create scenes using toy animals.

Plant seeds as part of worship.
Use near extinct species as a focus for prayer

OCEANS

Confession using clear water and dropping rubbish into it, reflect on the impact of our actions. Create worship focus of blue fabric, sea animals.

COSMOS

Use Space Odyssey opening https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e-QFj59PON4 as your service begins Video of James Webb Telescope pictures https://youtu.be/pinoqCfpjik?si=IMy2MzqBc6dvXkM7 Reading of Genesis 1 in space https://youtu.be/XEmn0uaQCYc?si=YZBuRzriyTefJ0C7

STORM

Storytelling using stones (see picture)
Use sounds of storm, thunder and lightning at the
beginning of the service (be aware that not everyone is
comfortable with these sounds so check first)
Create/paint a picture of the storm during the service.

Final Blessing

May we go out as beloved creations of stardust and breath. Always remembering that we are part of a universe far greater than we can imagine and loved by a God who cares about the smallest things. And the blessing of our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer of all life be with us. Amen