



## **ECEN Assembly 2021**

### **Opening prayer**

#### **1. Invocation - Loving creator**

L Loving Creator,  
you care for the land by sending rain;  
you make it fertile and fruitful.  
What a rich harvest you provide!

A *All your creation sings for joy.*

When we take care of the land,  
sowing the seed and reaping the harvest,

A *All your creation sings for joy.*

L When we keep streams and rivers clean,  
when we respect the purity of lakes and seas,

A *All your creation sings for joy.*

L When we recognise that we are one family,  
brothers and sisters together,  
with responsibility for the land and the waters,

A *All your creation sings for joy  
for you bless us abundantly all our days.*

#### **2. Prayer**

Our God, show us how to do things well today, in all days of our life,  
so that others may not suffer, here or there,  
now or in the future.

Show us how to make our contribution, as we change the way we live,  
travel, make and consume, pack and unpack,  
use, misuse and re-use energy, heating and lighting.

Show us how to do simple things well in our home,  
places of work and lifestyle choices.

Show us how to protect the world you made, in all its diversity and goodness,  
from our carbon emissions, global warming and climate change,  
rising temperatures and sea levels, the displacement of peoples, environmental poverty,  
harm and destruction.

Show us how and show us why, so that alone and with others,  
our contribution will make a difference.

**Amen**



### **3. Bible text - The Parable of the Sower**

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. <sup>2</sup>Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup>And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. <sup>5</sup>Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. <sup>6</sup>But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup>Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup>Let anyone with ears listen!'

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.**

**Amen.**

### **4. A prayer based on Psalm 4**

"Answer me when I call to you,

O my righteous God.

Give me relief from my distress;

be merciful to me and hear my prayer."

How long, O men and women, will you turn the glory of the earth into dangerous pollution?

How long will we love the delusion of consumerism and seek the false gods of money and possessions?

Help us to remember that you have set apart the godly for yourself; that you will hear us when we call to you.

In our exasperation and anxiety do not let us lose hope; when we have quiet times in the day, let us search our hearts and be silent.

Help us to live our lives sacrificially and to trust in the Lord.

Many are asking "What is the point? The earth is finished. Who can save us now?"

"Let the light of your face shine upon us, O Lord.

You have filled my heart with greater joy than when their grain and new wine abound.

I will lie down and sleep in peace, for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety."

**Amen.**

### **5. Lord's prayer**

### **6. Blessing**

May God bless us with love to bring forth new life.

In the name of God, the Maker of the whole world, of Jesus, our new covenant,

and of the Holy Spirit, who opens eyes and hearts.

**Amen.**