



INVITATION TO JOIN SEASON OF CREATION 2022

The Season of Creation is the annual Christian celebration to listen and respond together to the cry of Creation: the ecumenical family around the world unites to pray and protect our common home, the Oikos of God.

The Season **"Celebration"** begins 1 September, the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and ends 4 October, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christian denominations.

Following the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we begin the Season of Creation **"Preparation"** to reach local leaders and call our communities to participate actively by raising awareness of the theme, and how to respond to the cry of creation where the Lord calls us in our diverse contexts.

2022 THEME

This year we will unite around the theme, "Listen to the Voice of Creation."

During the COVID-19 pandemic, many have become familiar with the concept of being muted in conversations. Many voices are muted in public discourse around climate change and the ethics of Earth-keeping. These are voices of those who suffer the impacts of climate change. These are voices of people who hold generational wisdom about how to live gratefully within the limits of the land. These are voices of a diminishing diversity of more-than-human species. It is the voice of the Earth. The 2022 Season of Creation theme raises awareness of our need to listen to the voice of creation.

The Psalmist declares, "The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the Earth, and their words to the end of the world." (19: 1-4) Creation never ceases to proclaim, but do we listen?

During the Season of Creation, our common prayer and action can help us listen for the voices of those who are silenced. In prayer we lament the individuals, communities, species, and ecosystems who are lost, and those whose livelihoods are threatened by habitat loss and climate change. In prayer we center the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor.

Listening to the voice of creation offers members of the Christian family a rich entry point for interfaith and interdisciplinary dialogue and practice. By listening to the voice of all creation, humans from all cultures and sectors of life can be joined in our vocation to care for our common home (oikos).

May this 2022 Season of Creation renew our ecumenical unity! And may this season of prayer and action be a time to Listen to the Voice of Creation, so that our lives in words and deeds proclaim good news for all the Earth!



The 2022 Symbol:

"I have heard their cry...I know their sufferings...Come, now! I will send you... i will be with you" (Ex 3:1-12)



The Burning Bush
Ex 3:1-12

**Listen to the
Voice of creation**
SEASON OF CREATION 2022

The burning bush is the Symbol for the Season of Creation 2022.

We invite you to use the symbol of a burning bush during your events. Today, the prevalence of unnatural fires are a sign of the devastating effects that climate change has on the most vulnerable of our planet. Creation cries out as forests crackle, animals flee, and people are forced to migrate due to the fires of injustice that we have caused. On the contrary, the fire that called to Moses as he tended the flock on Mt. Horeb did not consume or destroy the bush. This flame of the Spirit revealed God's presence. This holy fire affirmed that God heard the cries of all who suffered, and promised to be with us as we followed in faith to our deliverance from injustice. In this Season of Creation, this symbol of God's Spirit calls us to listen to the voice of creation, and faithfully respond through worship, repentance and action. As you celebrate this Season of Creation, light candles, light the Easter fire, adorn a bush in your place of worship or action. And may this symbol remind us to take off our sandals, contemplate our connection to holy ground, listen for the voice of creation, and be filled with hope to quench the fires of injustice with the light of God's healing love that sustains our common home.

Join Season of Creation:

We hope that this Season of Creation renews and unites us by the one Baptism and call to care for our common home.

We invite you to schedule your own participation in the Season. As a first step, go to SeasonOfCreation.org. You will find the **Faith Leaders' Letter** inviting us to join the Season, the **Theme presentation**, and, later in May the official **Season of Creation Celebration Guide** with a wide range of resources (to be translated into various languages). Individuals and communities are invited to participate through prayer, sustainability projects, and advocacy:

Prayer: Host an ecumenical prayer service that unites all Christians to care for our common home, journey together in Creation or in places affected by climate change and biodiversity loss, liturgical moments to listen from the Book of Lord and the Book of Creation
Sustainability: Lead a public awareness event reaching a wider public of people with the good news that each of us can bring Its contribution.

Advocacy: Raise your voice for climate justice by participating or joining an ongoing campaign, such as the movement to divest from fossil fuels.

See [HERE](#) for concrete proposals to participate through prayer, sustainability projects, advocacy.

As an unstoppable wave, Christians from all over the world will witness to listen and respond together to the cry of creation and as we care for our common home (oikos), each initiative will be an essential piece of the mosaic that only together we could create.

