

# Blackburn Cathedral Creation Care Conference 1 November 2025

## Land as gift, as promise, as partnership

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Almighty God, Creator and Sustainer of all that there is,  
Make us mindful of the gifts of your Creation – earth, water, air,  
our fellow creatures on land and sea:  
Forgive us our neglect of the power of your Creation,  
our vanity in believing we can control and order all around;  
Bring us together with all you have made into a common home,  
a place of thankfulness and peace;  
Through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ who shared our death  
and promises us eternal life in you. Amen.

### Land as Gift

The risky generosity of God in Creation (Genesis 1, 9-13 & 24-25)  
Humankind and earth (Genesis 2, 7)  
Humankind's unique place in Creation (Psalm 104; Benedicite Omnia Opera;  
Romans 8, 19-24. Francis of Assisi 'Canticle of the Sun')  
*God's Grandeur*, a poem by Gerard Manley Hopkins  
Questions about our gratitude and wonder

### Land as Promise

The promise of land (Deuteronomy 6, 10-11)  
The guarding of the promise (1 Kings 21, 1-8)  
Forgetting the promise (Amos 8, 1-6, & Matthew 21, 33-44)  
Walter Brueggemann (2002) *The Land: Place as Gift, Promise and Challenge*  
*Cantre'r Gwaelod*, a poem by Gillian Clarke  
Questions about our forgetfulness and lament

### Land as Partnership

Partnership with the earth (Genesis 3, 17-23)  
Sabbath rest (Genesis 2, 1-3, Leviticus 9, 9-10)  
Finding our place in nature (Job 38, 4-42, Romans 8, 18-25)  
Questions about partnership and action

You can find more about the Church of England's thinking and practice on Creation care on <https://www.churchofengland.org/about/church-england-environment-programme>, about Creation care in Blackburn diocese on <https://www.blackburn.anglican.org/creation-care-and-the-environment> and about Arocha Eco Church on <https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk>