

United Methodist Women Sunday
Climate Justice (A call to hope and action)

Wisconsin Conference Mission Coordinators

***Prelude** *The United Methodist Hymnal*
All Creatures of Our God and King # 62.

Announcements

Greeting and Welcome

United Methodist Women PURPOSE

The organized unit of the United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Call to Worship: Based on *Climate Justice, Generation Green* (Silversten), Psalm 148, Ps 37:3; Gen, 2:7; 9:12; Leviticus 25:23; John 3:16.

Leader: Come everyone who worships the Lord!

People: **Trust in the Lord and do good.**

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Leader: Dwell in the land and cultivate faithfulness.

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People: **Give praise for our relationship with the earth
because we were created out of it.**

Leader: Give thanks for our relationship with God because
we breathe the very breath of Him who created us.

All: Praise God from the heavens. Praise God from the mountaintops.

Leader: Praise God, sun and moon and morning stars.

People: It is a good and wonderful thing to praise our God.

All: Let everything that grows, that swims, that flies, that walks, that breathes, praise God. Amen.

***Hymn** *The United Methodist Hymnal*
How Great Thou Art #

Children's time - Relate to mission...possibly use the April 2016 RESPONSE focusing on climate justice.

Choir group (Special Music)

Prayers of the people, morning prayer and the Lord's Prayer Offering

***Offertory hymn** *The United Methodist Hymnal*
For the Beauty of the Earth #92

***Scripture readings:**

“Hear the word of the Lord, O people of Israel; for the Lord has an indictment against the inhabitants of the land. There is no faithfulness or loyalty, and no knowledge of God in the land. Swearing, lying, and murder, and stealing and adultery break out; bloodshed follows bloodshed. Therefore the land mourns, and all

who live in it languish; together with the wild animals and the birds of the air, even the fish of the sea are perishing.” Hosea 4:1-3

“He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.” John 1:2-3

“For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.” Colossians 1:19-20

Message (Possible sermon topics):

- Sustainable practices are a key to today’s women, children and youth’s needs and a way to put faith, hope and love in action.
- I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live. Deuteronomy 30:19
- God calls us to “choose life.” In Deuteronomy, Moses speaks about God’s expectations of the covenant with the Israelites. Most of what God had asked for in Deuteronomy is summed up in Jesus’ great commandment: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind and soul and love your neighbor as yourself.” God says to the people— whether in the Hebrew Bible or the New Testament: Choose love. Choose care. Choose those things that make for life by loving God and loving neighbor with all the complexities and commitment of heart and soul and mind that involves!
- What Are Our Grandchildren Inheriting? Faithful Living in a Climate-challenged World
- The 13 Principles to be just, be green (choose one)

<http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/sustainability>

Accessibility
Affordability
Carbon Footprint
Healthy Food and Beverages
Just Economic Opportunities
Local Solidarity
Multigenerational Inclusion
Paper Use
Racial Justice
Toxin Reduction
Waste Reduction
Water Use
Well-being of Participants

- You might choose to have 3 parts: 1) State some facts about climate change (see climate change facts below), 2) Show visually/explain what good things are happening to address this around the world (see you tube clips in resource list below), 3) Share what acts each of us can do.

Sending Forth

Leader: As John Wesley says, “We are now God’s stewards. We are indebted to him for all we have.”

People: **“A steward is not at liberty to use what is lodged in his hand as he pleases but as his master pleases. He is not the owner of any of these things but barely entrusted with them by another.”**

Leader: “Now this is exactly the case of everyone with relation to God. We are not at liberty to use what God has lodged in our hands as we please, but as God pleases, who alone is the possessor of heaven and earth and the Lord of every creature.” As Rosemarie Wenner, the UMW *Climate Justice* author states,

People: **“It is time to practice not only personal holiness and social holiness, but also environmental holiness.”**

***Hymn** *United Methodist Hymnal*
“We Utter Our Cry” # 439

Benediction Sharon Delgado writes: “Creating a cultural shift involves a widespread transformation of attitudes, values, and lifestyles. This is no small task, but our churches are uniquely situated to help bring this about. Our bishops have spoken on these issues. Our General Conference has spoken out over the years, and will continue to speak. Their statements are prophetic and clear. Our challenge is to translate these statements into action and bring them to life.”
(Chapter 8 in *Climate Justice: A Call to Hope and Action*)

*Other suggested Bible verses and hymns

The United Methodist Hymnal

All Creatures of Our God and King # 62.

All Things Bright and Beautiful # 147

For the Beauty of the Earth #92

God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale #122

Morning Has Broken #145

This Is My Father's World #144

How Great Thou Art # 77

“We Utter Our Cry” # 439

The Faith We Sing

God the Sculpture of the Mountains #2060

Harvest Song #2061

Additional UMW information/resources:

- Bishops letter on Creation Care written in 2009 addressing the three interrelated focus areas of mission for the church— pandemic poverty and disease, environmental degradation and climate change, and a world awash with weapons and violence (see the handout following this) – Bishops Letter-Eng-Handout-2-col.pdf
- Climate Justice Quotes (attached)
Climate Justice Session 1 Quotes.docx
- Resource List (Climate Justice Resource Reference.docx)
- Climate Change facts from the leader’s guide, *Climate Justice: A Call to Hope and Action* by Anna Rhee
- The Climate Change and Environmental Justice area of the United Methodist Women’s website - www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/environment.
- Look at the Government of Canada, Canada’s Action on Climate Change, “Top 10 Things You Can Do to Help,”

modified November 30, 2015,
<http://climatechange.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=D27052C>
E-1.