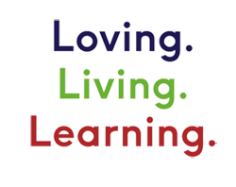
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**Stations of the Planet in the Season of Lent**

On the journey to Easter we remember that Christ’s death and resurrection brings healing and renewal for the whole planet and our failings in our calling to care for creation. This resource offers 10 simple reflective prayers for Christ’s broken creation. The Stations of the Planet could be used in a service or as a prayer activity either during holy week or at another time of year.

Lent is traditionally a six-week period when, as Churches and Christians, we are reminded of the foundations of our discipleship, of how we are called to live and to love in today’s world. Our lament culminates in the crucifixion on Good Friday. After the Easter celebrations, we celebrate the resurrection life, working to bring life and hope into many situations and reflect on the actions we can take ourselves.

Through our churches, we are reminded of the historical context in which all this took place, which is usually transmitted through the scriptural readings linked with the traditional Stations of the Cross and Stations of the Resurrection. These ‘Stations of the Planet’ are not intended to replace these important readings, but to add to the global understanding of creation and to illustrate how faith and service, worship and living are held together within the lordship of Christ. Biblical references litter our contemporary literature as society grapples with the existential challenges of the climate and biodiversity crises:

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**Stations of the Planet**

**Refrain:** *The Spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.*

*O Lord make haste to help us. And renew the face of the earth*



**First Station** – We fall from the Garden of Eden

We come to you in sorrow for our sins

We are losing our connection with the earth

as we sit in front of our television screens or chat on our phones.

***Refrain***



**Second Station** – We betray God’s trust in our stewardship

Woodlands and forests are cut down

The air we breathe is polluted

By carbon emissions.

Green pastures are suppressed by tarmac and steel.

***Refrain***



**Third Station** – We are condemned by our lack of care.

Climate change results in global warming

In more rain and flooding

In more heat and dry land

We are pushed to extremes and hardship.

***Refrain***



**Fourth Station**- We deny our responsibility.

Island states and coastal regions

Experience erosion and land loss

sea level rise and flooding

threatening vulnerable people and habitats.

***Refrain***



**Fifth Station** – We are judged by environmental activists.

Our ignorance and hardness of heart

Our lack of effort and participation

Our laziness and love of luxury

Speak against us.

***Refrain***

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**Sixth Station** – We are crippled by finance systems

Which forget ethical investment

Which ignore environmental matters

of funding and resources

in the pursuit of fast living and profit.

***Refrain***



**Seventh Station** – We carry the mistakes

Of earlier generations and the use of fossil fuels

Of denial and ignorance

Of stubborn hearts and minds

And negligence and lack of vision.

***Refrain***



**Eighth Station** – We continue to pollute

Our rivers with industrial waste

The oceans with plastic waste and acidic solutions

The land with chemical fertilizers

And the web of life which sustains us.

***Refrain***



**Ninth Station** – We continue to degrade

The ecosystems which support us

And the world around us.

Our environment and landscapes

Our streets and cities.

***Refrain***



**Tenth Station** – We are supported

By educators and scientists

As they reveal the wonders of creation

By environmental campaigners

As they raise awareness of our need to protect the earth.

***Refrain***

***Repeat the refrain***

**Amen.**

*Diocese of Leeds Environmental Worship Group - March 2023*