

Child B May we always strive to follow God's hard paths of truth and justice.

[BELL IS RUNG ONCE BY ADULT 2]

Adult 1 And now, with 45 peals of proclamation, let us pause to consider in awe and in thanksgiving the wonder of our world and the amazing resources held in trust by you and by me.

[BELL IS RUNG RAPIDLY, 45 TIMES, BY CHILD A AND CHILD B, WITH FINAL RING FADING SLOWLY TO SILENCE]

Adult 2 Let us pray.

God of life,

Send us out inspired by your goodness, keen in our anger, and trusting in your love.

May those who wield power be open to your guiding. May those who have much be prompted by your teaching. May those who struggle in poverty be led from their suffering to a new order of hopefulness and sustainable sharing.

Now go in peace, loving and serving God in his world, bringing his light into corners of darkness and the warmth of his blessing to those in need. AMEN.

Liturgy by Rev Dr Robin Hill, Panel on Worship

*For more information on the churches response to Climate Change and the G8 summit, contact the Society Religion and Technology Project
0131 556 2953 :: srtp@srtp.org.uk :: www.srtp.org.uk*

Family liturgy of bells to mark the G8 Summit Thursday 7th July 2005, at 1.40pm

The congregation gathers near the church bell.

The liturgy is conducted by two adults and two children.

Adult 1: Grace and peace to you from God our Creator; maker of Heaven and Earth.

We gather here this afternoon to worship God, remembering before him the plight of our planet and the needs of its people. We do this at a time when the leaders of the world's economic powers are meeting in summit at Gleneagles.

In five minutes' time, at precisely 1345, we will ring out our bell(s) as a reminder to ourselves and as a proclamation to our parish that the world needs a new awareness of God's justice.

At a stage in human history when 13% of the world's population is responsible for producing 45% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions, it is right that citizens of the prosperous nations should pause in penitence for our thoughtless exploitation of the environment, and our needless abuse of our neighbours around the world.

We will do this in unity with congregations across the land, at the timely prompting of Friends of the Earth.

Adult 2 Now let us draw near to God in prayer. Let us pray:

Holy God,

You are the giver of life, the provider of all good things.

In you we find the Creator of hill and glen, river and loch. You hold the key to life, in plant and in animal. You offer resources of astonishing worth for all to enjoy in stewardship.

We praise you for your generosity to us and to all creatures on this your good Earth.

Forgive us, Creator God, for the many ways in which we harm your Earth through our greed. We are sorry for those conscious decisions which lead us, so comfortably, to despoil the planet.

And we are sorry for the many ways in which our easy lifestyle brings such suffering: through our needless burning of fossil fuels; through our pursuit of pointless materialism; through our culture of waste and destruction.

Now in the silence Lord, we ask your forgiveness, and your grace to guide us into a just future.

[SILENCE UNTIL 1345]

You have heard our prayers. Now lead us to your truth, we pray.
AMEN.

Adult 1 We come now to ring out our church bell 13 times in penitence.

[BELL IS RUNG ONCE BY ADULT 2]

Child A We remember our planet: in all its beauty, in all its glory.

[BELL IS RUNG ONCE BY ADULT 2]

Child B We remember its lands: rich in plants and animals.

[BELL IS RUNG ONCE BY ADULT 2]

Child A We remember its seas: with shoals of fish, and hidden secrets.

[BELL IS RUNG ONCE BY ADULT 2]

Child B We remember its people: stewards of God's Creation.

[BELL IS RUNG ONCE BY ADULT 2]

Child A We are sorry for all that we waste in life.

[BELL IS RUNG ONCE BY ADULT 2]

Child B We are sorry that our greed is so great in the face of the world's needs.

[BELL IS RUNG ONCE BY ADULT 2]

Child A We are sorry that we keep on polluting our planet, wasting its energy.

[BELL IS RUNG ONCE BY ADULT 2]

Child B We are sorry that we find it so hard to live more simple lives.

[BELL IS RUNG ONCE BY ADULT 2]

Child A May we seek God's guidance in our living as individuals.

[BELL IS RUNG ONCE BY ADULT 2]

Child B May we find God's wisdom as we grow together in community.

[BELL IS RUNG ONCE BY ADULT 2]

Child A May we never take the easy choice which leads to unfair comfort.

[BELL IS RUNG ONCE BY ADULT 2]