



Galaxies Evening Service 24 October 2011

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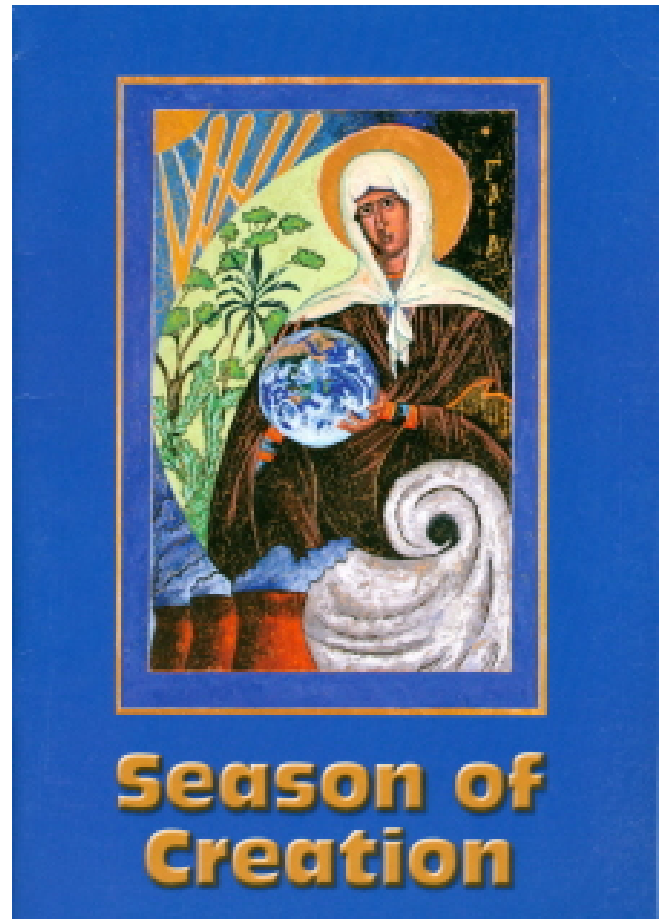


Welcome:

The theme for tonight's service is the "Season of Creation" and here we are on the beach at Breaker Bay.

The Charter for the Season of Creation is:
Celebrate Earth as a sacred planet filled with God's vibrant presence.

- **Unite** with all creation in praising the creator of the universe.
- **Confess** our sins against creation and empathise with a groaning creation.
- **Embrace** our kin in creation as our extended family.
- **Proclaim** the good news that the cosmic Christ who fills and renews all creation is embodied by the themes of Justice, Love and Mutuality of Jesus of Nazareth.
- **Gather** at the shared table to receive the healing power of Christ that extends to all creation.
- **Go forth** on a mission to be partners with Christ in the healing of creation.



Call to togetherness and sharing:

Leader: God, we are all part of you; your creation, your life, and your loving. We gather together to celebrate and to honour all that has been created

All: May all that God has created be honoured, nurtured and protected.

Passing the Peace

Hugs all round!

Notices

If you have any notices to bring to our attention please speak up.

Contemporary reflection - The Season of Creation



What Is the Season of Creation?

In the seasons of Advent, Epiphany, Lent and Easter we celebrate the life of Christ. In the season of Pentecost we celebrate the Spirit of God. Now, in the *Season of Creation*, we have an opportunity to celebrate God, the Creator of everything that exists. The *Season of Creation* was designed to run for four Sundays in September, prior to St Francis of Assisi Day but because *Galaxies* meets once a month I am bring all these elements into one service.

Why a *Season of Creation*?

There is growing concern in Christian communities about the ecological crisis and the way human beings are treating the Earth. Planet Earth is in peril! All creation is suffering.

An effective way to focus these concerns is through worship. By concentrating our worship on God's creation and our relationship with creation, we can seek ways to heal rather than exploit creation. The *Season of Creation* helps us care for our planet home so that it may continue to care for us.

Making the Mandelas

Today we are going to do something artistic/spiritual/mystical as we journey through the Ocean, Fauna, Storm and Cosmos phases - we are going to create four mandelas from the beach wash, the areas surrounding us and anything you may have brought with you to represent the seasons above. So everyone take a different season (team up if necessary), make a circle and start filling it in. Think how you will represent your chosen season!

Departure

God, our Creator, as we reflect on the mysteries of the cosmos, we celebrate the wondrous design of the universe and the wisdom that guides its course. Help us to discern how we are connected with past and present members of the cosmic community. Teach us to sense the presence of the cosmic Christ, whose presence fills and reconciles all forces in creation.

Thank you for all those you have sent to support us and to challenge us that we may grow. May we in turn support and challenge others we meet along the way. Amen!

