

Albany Presbytery March 16
Draft docket order

Meeting Theme: "Earth Care"

At this meeting, We Will Engage in Worshipful Work

9:30 a.m. **Registration, Connecting, Troubleshooting**
Informal discussion topic – visions and dreams

We Gather

10:00 a.m. **Welcome and Announcements**
Reminder of How this presbytery meeting will work

“Through this meeting, we will be engaging in ‘Worshipful Work.’ As such, our docket has been drafted to resemble an order of worship where **we gather** together, **we hear** the Word in scripture and story, **we respond** to what we have heard with discernment and action, and **we are sent out** to be actively engaged and involved in care of creation.”

Approval of the Docket
Stated Clerk’s report, including approval of minutes

10:15 a.m. **Approach/Call to Worship** – recall us to the work of care for the earth as part of our journey of faith

In Praise of the God of Creation

by Agbonkhianmeghe E. Orobator, from *Theology Brewed in an African Pot*

Ageless One, Creator,

From before before, when only water and darkness existed

You formed the earth with a grain of sand.

You created our mothers and fathers from a drop of milk.

From your deep womb came fire to light sun, moon, stars,

You raised mountains high, moulded hills round, dug valleys deep.

You stretched rivers long, filled lakes to the brim, spread oceans wide,

You caused thunder to rumble, lightning to flash, rain to fall.

You planted green fields, thick bushes, mighty forests.
You fixed wings on birds, fins on fishes, limbs to animals.

From the same bowl you ate *ugali* and *fufu*, and drank palm-wine with our
ancestors.
You taught them to grow crops, melt iron, harvest salt, grind grains
Until our greed and selfishness caused you to retreat into your great sky hut
And there was Death

Still, from your great sky hut you lower your ageless umbilical cord.
You draw us back into your deep womb of love and compassion, to live a
thousand moons with our ancestors.
That is why we raise our voices and sing of the wonder of your creation, the
grandeur of your wisdom

Confession/Reaffirmation of Baptism – video on creation care

We Hear

Receiving the Word – Scripture for the day

Peacemaking Taskforce 10-15 minutes for earth care emphasis

We Respond

Response

Music

Coordination Committee report

Nominations for the Committee on Representation and Nominations

Information on today's offerings

Personnel Committee report

Nomination for Stated Clerk

11:00 a.m.

Offering

Budget and finance (10 minutes)

Invitation to today's offering

Video/music – earth care

“Our Mother” from *Walk with Spirit: A Native American Approach to Spirituality* by
Susan Thomas Underwood

Creator designed Earth as our mother. She gives us water, food, shelter, and fuel
to warm the cold nights. She provides these things to all living things and not
just the two-leggeds, and we all know these things.

But, did you know that Mother Earth will soothe you when you are down, and
energize you when you are depleted?

The next time you feel depressed, do not go to the White Man’s house or city. Go
to your Earth Mother. Seek out a quiet place where Mother Earth is natural
and undisturbed by White Man. Lay down upon Her. let Her sun cradle and
warm your body. Let Her gentle breeze caress your face and let Her waters
restore your life. Listen to Her music, it will melt your troubles away. You will
walk away a new person.

But remember; return to her as you would your own mother. Be good to her and
give Her gifts occasionally. Our Mother needs our love just as we need hers. It
is all in the balance.

11:20 p.m. ***Prayers of the People***
Committee reports with motions accompanying

12:00 p.m. ***New or Unfinished Business***

We Are Sent Out

12:10 p.m. Words of Blessing and Benediction (Rev. Rebecca Lawson Putman, Stated Clerk)

12:30 p.m. Adjournment

Closing Presbytery Meeting w/ Song or hymn