**Eco Hymns**

We plough the fields with tractors,

We plough the fields with tractors,

With drills we sow the land;

But growth is still the wondrous gift

Of God’s almighty hand.

We add our fertilizers

To help the growing grain;

But for its full fruition,

It needs God’s sun and rain.

*All good gifts around us, are sent from heaven above,*

 *Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all his love.*

With many new machines now

We do the work each day;

We reap the fields with combines,

We bale the new-mown hay.

But still it’s God who gives us

Inventive skill and drives

Which lighten labour’s drudgery

And give us better lives.

He only is the maker

Of galaxies and stars;

Of birds and beasts and flowers,

And any life on Mars.

Atomic powers obey him,

Yet still the birds are fed;

By him our prayer is answered:

Give us our daily bread

(From the Arthur Rank Centre)

[Would you use this hymn as it is, or have a go at editing it?]

**[sung to:Praise my Soul the King of Heaven]**

1. Mother Earth, to all life giving

Bearing fruit that meet our needs.

Jesus too was flesh and breathing,

Walked the earth and sowed the seeds.

*Celebrate with all creation:*

*God has joined the web of life.*

2. Sister Air, our sister lifting

Ev’ry creature born with wing;

Jesus shared the breath of forests,

Breath that makes our spirits sing.

*Celebrate with all creation:*

*God has joined the web of life.*

3. Brother Water, brother pulsing

Deep through ev’ry vein and sea,

Jesus drank the very raindrops

Falling from the clouds above.

*Celebrate with all creation:*

*God has joined the web of life*.

4. Father Fire, our Father burning

With a sacred energy.

Jesus’ death completes the cycle,

Bringing life beyond the grave.

*Celebrate with all creation:*

*God has joined the web of life.*

Words based on: Norman Habel 1999, *Habel Hymns Volume One (after St Francis)*

**Hymn:** THE EARTH IS THE LORD’S (Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

Tune: Immortal, invisible, God only wise)

The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof.

Creation reminds us, O God, of your love.

By grace we are learning, as year leads to year,

We’re called to be stewards, your caretakers here.

Your rainforests nurture the world that we share.

Your wetlands give animals shelter and care.

Your coral reefs cradle the life of the sea.

You’ve shown us, in love, what your good world can be.

Too often, O God, we abuse your good earth.

We fail to remember its beauty and worth.

We take from creation much more than we need,

We threaten your world through indifference and greed.

May we be good stewards of all that you give,

Protecting creation wherever we live.

May we be a church that renews and restores

And lovingly cares for this earth that is yours.

Southern Churches Eco-congregations