

# Let's talk about it

*He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6:8)*

*Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth? (Baptismal Covenant, Book of Alternative Services)*

I want to finish off this series with this reminder of the last statement in our baptismal covenant, added to the BAS in 2013. If we did not actually promise this at our baptism or confirmation, we do so now when we witness baptisms.

Through these past 10 months, I have listed many ways for individuals and churches to strive to do these things.

But as I started this series, I want to again reference Dr. Katherine Hayhoe ([katharinehayhoe.com](http://katharinehayhoe.com)), who tells us the most important thing we can do is talk about it — to have climate conversations.

“When we talk about climate, we break the silence. And when we break the silence, we start to change the world.” (April 26 Talking Climate newsletter)

In fact, a recent study has determined that between 80 and 89 per cent of the world's people want governments to take stronger action on climate change, but many don't know they are part of that majority.

There is even a year-long global journalistic effort, the 89 Percent Project ([89percent.org](http://89percent.org)), to explore this fact and ensure it is reflected in news coverage.

Our acting Primate, National Indigenous Archbishop and the Lutheran National Bishop have just sent a letter to Prime Minister Mark Carney in which they state: “Anglicans and Lutherans believe that social and ecological justice are integral parts of God's mission. ... There is an urgent need to address the climate crisis and



to live in more sustainable ways.”

Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth? The response in the baptismal covenant is: I will, with God's help!

**Prayer:** I want to share this prayer from the Anglican Church in Australia as published in PWRDF (Alongside Hope) material.

Holy God,  
earth and air and water are  
your creation,  
and every living thing belongs to you:  
have mercy on us  
as climate change confronts us.

Give us the will and the courage  
to simplify the way we live,  
to reduce the energy we use,  
to share the resources you provide,  
and to bear the cost of change.

Forgive our past mistakes  
and send us your Spirit,  
with wisdom in present controversies  
and vision for the future to which you call us  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

© The Anglican Church of Australia Trust Corporation

**Resources** (more at [nb.anglican.ca/GreeningUp](http://nb.anglican.ca/GreeningUp)):  
**YouTube:** Katharine Hayhoe - How to Talk About Climate Change

**Globally representative evidence on the actual and perceived support for climate action:** <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-024-01925-3>

*Cheryl Jacobs worships at Christ Church Cathedral and is trying to live greener...*