

General Synod 2022

Motion No.11

Proposer: The Very Revd Susan Green

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Your Grace, Members of Synod,

Archbishop

There has been a developing growth of concern and an appreciation for the environment throughout society over the past few years. This is shared by the Churches too and has been a serious issue that has been highlighted over the past number of General Synods both before and during Covid. In common with several of our sister Churches in the Anglican Communion we believe it is important that we join with them in having a seasonal period during which people could reflect on this important issue.

A great deal of theological study has been done in the recent past on God's creation and humanity's role as stewards and co-creators. This depth of theological enquiry can be reflected in liturgical practice and in daily lived experience.

This season of creation originated within the orthodox church and runs from 1st September to 4th October (from Orthodox New Year, to the feast day of St Francis of Assisi) thereby encompassing our rather unique season of Harvest Thanksgiving Services, which as a celebration of the fruit of the earth and the generosity of God would resonate with the themes of the Season of Creation.

This is not just another special Sunday, rather it is a set period during which parishes can choose a time to reflect on these significant issues; perhaps including their harvest thanksgiving or further widening the scope to encompass local environmental initiatives or issues as well as enabling clergy to focus on the themes of creation care and climate justice.

Archbishop I formally propose this motion.