

## Hymn08.10.5 WE LOOK WITH SADNESS ON THE EARTH

*"God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good." Gen. 1:31a*

We look with sadness on the earth,  
our home, with billions more.  
The land and sea and air cry out:  
"How much can we endure?"  
Creation's gifts sustain our lives,  
and God proclaimed them good,  
but selfish use could soon destroy  
this global neighborhood.

The Scripture's timeless word to us  
contains a prime demand:  
To keep the earth quite Eden-like,  
and wisely till the land.  
God's handiwork was meant to last  
for future human use.  
God calls us now to find the ways  
to save it from abuse.

The water reached by digging wells,  
the ice in polar seas,  
the ozone blocking harmful rays,  
and shade of friendly trees,  
the fossil fuels that drive our cars,  
the soil producing food,  
have taken eons to evolve,  
and may not be renewed.

Since Christ our Lord used things of earth  
to show us things divine,  
like yeast in bread, the well of life,  
and water turned to wine,  
He so implies a sacred task--  
to care for field and vine--  
that children yet unborn delight  
in holy bread and wine.

Words: R. Frederick Crider, Jr. ©2008 All rights reserved. Scripture: Genesis 1:31a NRSV Forest Green  
Music: Trad. English melody; arr. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906 (cf. p.152 UMH "I Sing The Almighty Power of God") CMD

**God's grace is sung by chirping bird,  
and waters in the creek,  
for all creation sings as one  
and even stones may speak.  
But now this song is sometimes sad,  
for careless, human use,  
has caused a planet's fine design  
to suffer from abuse.**

*joins it's voice,*

Entrusted with a sacred task—  
the care of this good earth—  
let Christians show their love for God  
by loving bay and firth,  
by taking less with careful means  
from field and sea and mine,  
so children yet unborn delight  
in holy bread and wine.

*peak*  
and giving more,  
may taste  
Christ's

we see it raped without remorse plundered  
life's waters roar and foam.  
For all neath heaven's dome  
For people we have known

We speak with boldness for the earth  
It's message loud and clear,  
the handiwork of God reflects  
God's glory far and near.

declare this truth to all:  
The handiwork of God is hurt  
around this earthly ball.

The heavens tell, the earth proclaims  
their message loud and clear,  
through words by day, and thoughts at night:  
"Be still so you may hear: