

# Eco-hymn

TEESDALE 12.12.12

Words and music by Tony Compton

With a sense of urgency - not too slow

"Where were you, hu-mans, when the

Intro (optional)

The first system of music features a piano introduction. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#), and a 2/2 time signature. The melody starts with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, and a half note C5. The bass line consists of a half note G3 and a half note B2. The piece then changes to a 3/2 time signature, with the melody continuing with a half note C5 and a quarter note B4. The bass line has a half note G3 and a quarter note B2. A repeat sign follows, with the melody starting on a quarter note G4 and the bass line on a half note G3.

5 u - ni-verse be-gan - from less than small - est at - om

The second system of music starts at measure 5. The treble clef has a 4/2 time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5. The bass line has a half note G3 and a half note B2. The piece then changes to a 3/2 time signature, with the melody continuing with a half note C5 and a quarter note B4. The bass line has a half note G3 and a quarter note B2.

7 to its pre - sent span? When gal-ax-ies, and stars and

The third system of music starts at measure 7. The treble clef has a 4/2 time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5. The bass line has a half note G3 and a half note B2. The piece then changes to a 3/2 time signature, with the melody continuing with a half note C5 and a quarter note B4. The bass line has a half note G3 and a quarter note B2.

9 plan-ets came to birth and from the swirl-ing dust re -

The fourth system of music starts at measure 9. The treble clef has a 4/2 time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5. The bass line has a half note G3 and a half note B2. The piece then changes to a 3/2 time signature, with the melody continuing with a half note C5 and a quarter note B4. The bass line has a half note G3 and a quarter note B2.

11 -vealed a Sun and Earth? 6. all.

The fifth system of music starts at measure 11. The treble clef has a 2/2 time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5. The bass line has a half note G3 and a half note B2. The piece then changes to a 3/2 time signature, with the melody continuing with a half note C5 and a quarter note B4. The bass line has a half note G3 and a quarter note B2. The system ends with a double bar line and repeat signs.

## Eco-hymn

1. "Where were you, humans, when the universe began -  
from less than smallest atom to its present span?  
When galaxies, and stars and planets came to birth  
and from the swirling dust revealed a Sun and Earth?
2. Where were you when the mountains grew and oceans filled,  
while drifting continents took shape and lava spilled?  
When atoms joined to form primaeval cells, which now  
evolved in myriad forms, as fossil traces show?
3. Where were you when the plants made air that you can breathe?  
Your distant forebears then could move and swim and leave  
the sea to make a home on land, evolve and learn  
to walk erect, to speak, to think and to discern?"
4. Though we were late in evolution's glorious tale,  
our minds have planned and hands have built, and yet we fail  
to see beyond the blessings we have brought to where  
we've changed the land for worse and poisoned sea and air.
5. We worship God as maker of our world and more,  
but empty praise neglects pollution, waste and war.  
If we believe that God's creation all has worth:  
true worship is to care for all of life and Earth.
6. Where are we, humans, in our planet's direst need?  
Go challenge crass denial, ignorance and greed,  
speak truth to power and make our global impact small,  
let God's creation give abundant life to all.

based on an essay by Revd Matthew Fox,  
itself based in part on Job 38: 4,8,12  
(With thanks to Chris Avis of Southernhay URC, Exeter,  
who forwarded Revd Fox's essay to the author.)  
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