



Climate in the Pulpits

VOTE: Committing Ourselves to Climate Justice and Beloved Community

Find more resources at IPLdmv.org/ClimatePulpitResources

Guest Speaker Sample Talk

Good morning! It's good to be with you today. My name is _____ and I work alongside Interfaith Power & Light/Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions. [I want to thank [CLERGY] for their message on Creation care this morning.]

This weekend, I'd like to invite you all to join congregations of many faith traditions across our region in celebrating Climate [in the Pulpits / on the Bimah / in the Minbar]. Across our traditions, we share the belief that we are responsible for the impact of our choices in the world. And one of the biggest impacts we have in the world each day is through our use of fossil fuels.

Burning fossil fuels for our energy and for our transportation is pouring heat-trapping climate pollution into our atmosphere, hurting our neighbors here and around the world.

Fossil fuels are also dirtying our air, causing asthma attacks and other respiratory issues that steal the divine gift of breath. We all suffer from that pollution, but it's especially deadly for Black, Brown, Indigenous, and low-income communities who have been forced to breathe far more than their fair share of dirty air.

So we are called to work together to fight for environmental justice: to move our economy off of fossil fuels, to clean our air, and repair our damaged climate. And one of the most important ways we can do that this fall is to vote our values! Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. called voting a "moral responsibility," and I believe it's a moral responsibility we each hold today.

So I hope you'll join so many caring people across [our region] who are requesting a mail-in ballot (Maryland and Virginia voters; DC registered voters will be mailed a ballot and do not need to request one), voting safely, and helping to choose leaders who share our commitment to repairing our damaged climate.

Even when we're gathered online, we can take action together, and in community! So in a moment, we're going to play a few minutes of music, during which I invite everyone to click on the link we're putting [in the chat/in the comments] right now, <https://ipldmv.org/vote>. Click on that link to open a form that will walk you step-by-step through making sure you're registered to vote and have a chance to request a vote-by-mail ballot.

Suggested music to play while people complete the form:

In Zoom, "Share Screen" > "Advanced" > share audio. *Please note that appropriate licensing for use of any of the songs below is the responsibility of your congregation.*

[One Voice](#) (The Wailin' Jennys) 3:23

[Guide My Feet, While I Run This Race](#) (Arr. Dr. Bernice Johnson Reagon)

To paste in the chat/comments:

Take action with us now: <http://ipldmv.org/vote>

Or text MDLCV to 52886

Climate in the Pulpits/ on the Bimah / in the Minbar is a collaboration between Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions, Interfaith Power & Light (DC.MD.NoVA), and Virginia Interfaith Power & Light.