

(The following meditations and actions are adapted from the carbon fast recommended by the Rt. Rev. John Bryson Chane, former Bishop of Washington, written by the Rt. Rev. James Jones, Bishop of Liverpool, and used previously by St. James' Care for Creation ministry in 2008)

April 14, Solar Energy: "Let there be light" (Genesis 1:3)

Focus on God's creation of light. Spend time this week enjoying the sun, the star at the center of the solar system. Sunlight is Earth's primary source of energy. The Sun's current age is thought to be about 4.57 billion years. Marvel at the light of night, the moon, earth's only natural satellite and the fifth largest natural satellite in the solar system. The Moon is in synchronous rotation, meaning that it keeps nearly the same face turned towards the Earth at all times. Enjoy nature art that uses light and dark images to portray the magnificence of God's creation! Give thanks that we have such convenient lighting in our homes and offices.

Contemplation

- Look up at the sky at least once each day. Spot interesting cloud patterns.
- Enjoy the waxing and waning of the moon.
- Look at the contrasts in Ansel Adams photographs and feel the soothing light in Thomas Kincaid's artwork.
- [A Liturgy for Sunrise](#) (link to Care for Creation Prayer Resources)
- [A Liturgy for Sunsets](#) (link to Care for Creation Prayer Resources)

Action

- Switch off lights as you leave each room.
- Replace at least one incandescent light bulb with a more energy efficient type.
- Explore solar power for your home
 - Resources for solar co-ops and community solar from [Interfaith Power & Light](#)
 - Resources for residential solar, geothermal, and energy storage from the [Montgomery County Green Bank](#)