Does the call to hear the cry of the earth and the cry of poor have relevance to the liturgy? Pope Francis in Laudato Si says, “the destiny of all creation is bound up with the mystery of Christ” (LS, 99). Our challenge is to be sure that all creation is in view every time we celebrate the Eucharist. This workshop will begin with the belief that ecological spirituality, embodied in care for creation and those harmed by environmental degradation, is central to the meaning of the Eucharist. On a regular basis, how we sing, pray and preach, should include this cosmic dimension of the paschal mystery. Laudato Si invites us to re-envision our relationship to creation. We are to see first, the problem of environmental degradation and the harm it does to the poor. Second, we are to see anew the “The Gospel of Creation” (the title of Chapter 2 of the encyclical), and how this sacramental vision guides our response to the problem.

This workshop will address how we sing the new song of the Gospel of Creation at liturgy in the context of our world today.

**ABOUT BOB HURD:**

Bob Hurd has served as a teacher, composer and liturgist in various pastoral and academic settings, including Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, the Franciscan School of Theology in Berkeley and St. Patrick’s Seminary in Menlo Park, California. He currently teaches in the summer program of Seattle University’s School of Theology and Ministry.

He began composing music shortly after Vatican II when the need arose for new music in the vernacular, music that the whole assembly could sing. Thus began 45 years of composing music for the liturgy. Bob is also known as an early pioneer of bilingual and multilingual music, with compositions like "Pan de Vida" and Misa de las Américas.

Our Common Home was inspired by Pope Francis’ Laudato Si’ encyclical, with songs for liturgy and prayer from well-known OCP composers who speak to themes of care for creation, poverty and solidarity. The collection is the brainchild of Bob Hurd who turned up rather empty-handed in his search for music that dealt with our responsibility to be good stewards of creation. After writing “Every Creature Is Sister and Brother,” a song highlighting the connection between the Eucharist and environmental concerns, he decided to invite several composers to join him in writing songs based on Pope Francis’ encyclical Laudato Si’: On Care for Our Common Home. Drawing from both his musical and academic background, Bob has written articles for a variety of publications, including Worship, Liturgy, Celebration, Liturgical Ministry, Today’s Liturgy, Catechumenate and Pastoral Music. Bob lives in Claremont, California with his wife, Pia Moriarty, who has collaborated with him on much of his bilingual music.