Uniting Church

‘God loves the divine creation and wills the development of its life. No creature is indifferent in the eyes of God. Each has its dignity and thereby also its right to existence … We support the attribution of rights not only to humans but also to nature, God's creation, and we reject the view that animate and inanimate nature are mere objects which stand at the arbitrary disposal of the human … Nature has a right to the protection of its eco-systems, species, and populations in their inter-connectedness.’

Uniting Church in Australia Assembly (1991). The rights of nature and the rights of future generations. Available at: https://ucaassembly.recollect.net.au

‘We renew our commitment to move towards sustainable non-exploitative living, believing that God’s creation—the earth itself and all the life that it supports—is precious and the earth’s resources exist for the good of all now as well as future generations.

Uniting Church in Australia Assembly (2006). For the sake of the planet and all its people. Available at: https://ucaassembly.recollect.net.au

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

‘We ... strive to live a just life which values the air, the waters, the soil, living things and the processes sustaining all life. We commit to the demanding, costly implications of radically changed ways of living ... out of joy, celebration, reverence and a deep love of life.’

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) (2008). Earthcare statement. Available at: https://www.quakersaustralia.info/friends-statement-earthcare

‘Trees, plants and other life-forms are like us: they breathe and drink; they eat and excrete, they are born, re-create their kind and die. Like us they are subject to the rhythms of day and night, the pull of the moon’s tides, magnetism and gravity ... I have come to know, sensuously, that community includes all beings ...’

Gould, H. (2009). The Quaking Meeting: transforming our selves, our meetings and the more-than-human world. Backhouse Lecture, delivered to Australia Yearly Meeting. Available at: https://www.quakersaustralia.info/sites/aym-members/files/pages/files/2009%20Lecture.pdf

Anglican Church

‘The Hebrew bible uses the word “shalom” for peace, though shalom is a broader concept referring to the harmony of all life lived with an awareness of God. It is that harmony with creation that we are called to discover through our servanthearted discipleship as we follow the call of the prophet Micah (6:8) to “to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God.”’

Anglican Communion (2024). Choosing hope. Anglicans working for joint action on nature loss. Anglican Communion Calls for COP16. Available at: https://www.anglicannews.org/news/2024/10/anglicans-calls-to-cop16-choosing-hope-to-tackle-nature-loss.aspx

Catholic Church

‘Each year sees the disappearance of thousands of plant and animal species which we will never know, which our children will never see, because they have been lost for ever. The great majority become extinct for reasons related to human activity. Because of us, thousands of species will no longer give glory to God by their very existence, nor convey their message to us. We have no such right.’

Pope Francis (2015). Laudato Si’: on care for our common home. Encyclical letter. Available at: http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html