



DAY 3

COP26 ECUMENICAL DELEGATION

News from the UN Climate Change Conference UK 2021

NOVEMBER 2021 | DAY 3

The COP26 Ecumenical Delegation, led by *For the Love of Creation* and the United Church of Canada, will be bringing you highlights, impressions, stories, and hopes each day of the UN Climate Change Conference.

Day 3 Highlights

Notable quotes

“THE SOLUTION TO THE CLIMATE CRISIS WILL NOT BE ACHIEVED WITH MORE GREEN CAPITALISM. OR MORE GLOBAL CARBON MARKETS. THE SOLUTION IS CIVILIZATIONAL CHANGE, TO MOVE TOWARD AN ALTERNATIVE MODEL TO CAPITALISM.

BOLIVIAN PRESIDENT LUIS ARCE

The day started out with the Leaders Event **“Action on Forests and Land Use,”** where we heard the commitment to prevent further deforestation globally and protect the natural world. While countries including China, Brazil, and the US are signing on to the Glasgow Leaders’ Declaration on Forest and Land Use, the Amazon is being decimated day by day. A new report by Nature Canada indicates that we are massively underreporting forestry related emissions, and “clear cutting approximately five NHL hockey rinks of boreal forest per minute.” Will real action come quickly enough to protect these sacred spaces?

Many more announcements and pledges came today. There was the Global Methane Pledge with an alliance of 90 countries setting out new regulatory measures to limit global methane emissions by 30% from 2020 levels by the end of the decade. African countries committed to spend \$6bn on adapting to climate impacts.



Day 3 Highlights

Notable quotes

“MY TRUTH WILL ONLY LAND IF YOU HAVE THE GRACE TO FULLY LISTEN.”

ELIZABETH WATHUTI, YOUTH CLIMATE ACTIVIST FROM KENYA

Please take time to read, reflect, and pray on the post from COP26 Ecumenical Delegation member Tony Snow, “All Saints Day at COP26” from the For the Love of Creation blog page: <https://fortheloveofcreation.ca/all-saints-day-at-cop26/>

At least \$1.7bn of funding will be given directly to Indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs). This is a plan to coordinate the global introduction of clean technologies in order to rapidly drive down their cost. And Prime Minister Trudeau is calling for a “global carbon tax” as the best path to keep 1.5C alive.

While it’s good to see large scale commitments, of course, the devil is in the details – the targets, the implementation, the ambition, the financing, and the accountability – to make sure things are moving at the pace and scale to meet the crisis.

A range of side events offered inspiration and insight today, including a great discussion called “Unlocking the Nature/Net Zero Balance” that focussed on water and wetland protection. Later, the Laudato Si’ Movement will host “Faith in Action for Climate Justice” where faith activists, youth, and leaders from around the world will share their voices for justice.

Stories, Impressions, Reflections

A subheading stood out for me today from the CBC – “Decoupling Growth from GHG Emissions.” This came from the panel on carbon tax when Prime Minister Trudeau called for a global program. There is an almost desperate optimism from rich world leaders that addressing the climate crisis need not impede economic growth. To me, it’s delusional, but not unexpected. Our delegation reflected today on the ups and downs of the process so far. We are lifted up by the spirit of love for the Earth and the action for climate justice happening around the world. Of course, we feel the frustration from empty talk, thinly veiled opportunism, and continued efforts to exclude the grassroots from decision making. But the spirit of hope and resistance will keep lifting us! That spirit is the real growth we need, and it’s alive!

**To follow COP26 online go to the COP26 Youtube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/c/UNClimateChange>**

