

CREATION DAY & THE NICAEA CENTENARY

Crystallizing the Ecumenical Dream of the New Liturgical Feast

5-7 May 2025, Assisi

A promising ecumenical process is underway, unprecedented in the long history of Christianity. It began in March 2024, when a historic conference in Assisi discussed the future of “Creation Day”, as September 1st came to be known in recent decades (also known as the “Feast of Creation” or “World Day of Prayer for Creation”). Consensus began to emerge about the prospects of **Creation Day to become a liturgical feast/festival** in Western denominations sharing a common calendar, inspired by the day’s ancient symbolism and liturgical importance in the Eastern Orthodox Church. There is much potential in this celebration of the Triune God as Creator and of the great mystery of the creation of heaven and earth, particularly in light of the stark signs of the times. *For more context, see [Ecumenical report](#) and [Roman Catholic report](#).*



This new (and final) ecumenical conference will be a continuation of that conversation, with the backdrop of the celebrations of the 1700 years of Nicaea in 2025. In fact, the exploration of the feast will be grounded in the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed’s proclamation of our faith in the Triune God as Creator – in “the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth”, in Christ “through [whom] all things were made”, and in the Holy Spirit, “the giver of life”. The hope is that the new feast/festival could be a **tangible gesture of Christian unity** that might continue to bear fruit way beyond the Nicaea centenary. Moreover, the event will be enriched by the celebration of the 800th anniversary of the Franciscan “Canticle of the Creatures”, also happening in Assisi in 2025.

CONFERENCE GOALS

1. **Broaden the scope** of the ecumenical dialogue to include more denominations that did not participate in the first conference (*both liturgical and “non-liturgical” / “Free Church” worship traditions, considering that all churches do celebrate some key feasts jointly*).
2. **Explore in more depth** the proposed feast/festival, including the open questions of the first conference (*e.g. Christological or Trinitarian feast title, biblical readings for Lectionary, date*).
3. **Discern and co-create the next steps** through a rich series of theological and pastoral sessions about how the feast might be celebrated.

INVITED PARTICIPANTS

- Leaders from various churches, communions, and ecumenical bodies.
- Scholars – theologians, liturgists, ecumenists.
- Members of ecumenical liturgical bodies.
- Ministers and leaders engaged in ecumenical dialogue, liturgical ministry, or creation-related ministries.

PROGRAM

- *May 4 (Sunday):* Arrivals; optional tour "[Terra Laudato Si'](#)" (3:30-6pm at [San Damiano](#))
Welcome dinner (8pm)
- *May 5-7:* **Conference** – see program: [short version](#) and [detailed version](#)
- *May 8:* Departures

COMMUNIONS AND INSTITUTIONS INVOLVED

Convened by: World Council of Churches, Anglican Communion, Lutheran World Federation, World Communion of Reformed Churches, World Methodist Council, and Middle East Council of Churches; plus Laudato Si' Research Institute at Oxford University as academic facilitator.

With the participation of: Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople (Eastern Orthodox Church), various Catholic bodies (Roman and Eastern rites), Pentecostal World Fellowship, Baptist World Alliance, Mennonite World Conference, World Evangelical Alliance, Coptic Orthodox Church, Disciples of Christ, Moravian Church, ECEN, Salvation Army, Friends World Committee for Consultation.

Locally hosted by: Laudato Si' Center of Assisi and Pro Civitate Christiana.

LOGISTICAL DETAILS

- **Format:** Hybrid (in-person and Zoom).
- **Live interpretation:** English and Italian.
- **For in-person participants:**
 - **Venue:** Cittadella Laudato Si', [Via degli Ancaiani 3](#), Assisi, Italy.
 - **Conference fee:** €75
(if financially constrained, request partial or full fee waiver to CreationFeast@gmail.com)
 - **Accommodation & Meals:**

- **For those staying at [Cittadella](#)** (event venue): you can book a room via the conference [RSVP form](#) – €290 for 4 nights in single room and all meals (from May 4 welcome dinner to May 8 breakfast).
 - You are welcome to stay for more nights if desired (€52 per night, excluding meals).
 - If you travel with someone else, the cost of a double or triple room is €241/person for 4 nights, with meals included.
- **For those staying elsewhere:** If you stay elsewhere (many other lodging options are available across Assisi), the cost of the package of all dinners and lunches (from May 4 welcome dinner to May 7 farewell dinner) is €120.
- **Travel:** Participants are kindly requested to arrange their own travel (financial support unavailable). See: [“How to reach Cittadella”](#). Moreover:
 - For air travel: Florence, Rome, and Perugia are viable airport options.
 - By train, Assisi is about 3hs from Florence, 3hs from Rome’s Fiumicino airport or 2hs from Rome’s Termini central station (in Termini allow yourself at least 15min to find the platform to Assisi as it’s fairly distant), or 15min from Perugia. For train details and booking, visit [Trenitalia.com](#).
- **Contact info:** CreationFeast@gmail.com

[Register](#)



WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU TO ASSISI!