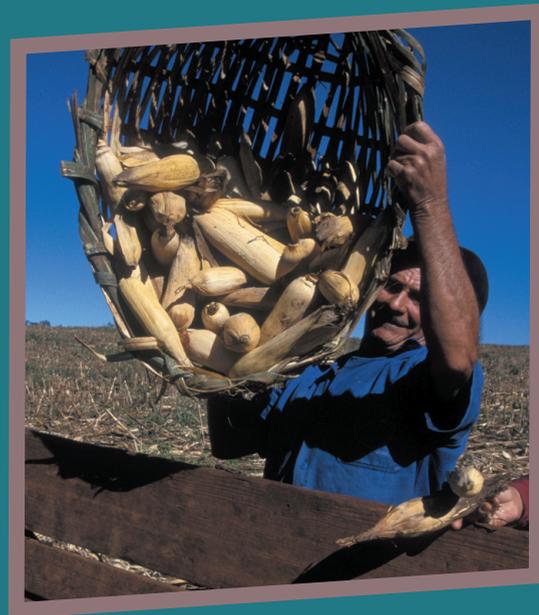




Global Week of Action



Worship Guide on Trade and Globalization



Ecumenical Advocacy
Alliance

Presbyterian
Church (U.S.A.)



Championing the cause of the poor of the world in the pursuit of trade justice is a truly noble endeavor

Archbishop Desmond Tutu

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How to use this guide

If you plan worship services in your local church, then this guide has been written for you! If you lead prayers, social ministry, education, or women's or children's programs then this guide has been written for you too! We hope that we have made it as easy as possible for you and your local church to take part in the Global Week of Action.

This guide includes a complete order of service about trade justice, which will be used in churches, parishes and cathedrals all over the world on Sunday, 10 April 2005. The liturgy (pages I-IV) has been written especially for the Week of Action, and can be downloaded or photocopied and distributed to each member of the congregation. It can be used in full or in part, as it stands or adapted to suit your local context.

The guide also includes important and useful Bible readings, theological reflection, sermon ideas, children's activities, prayers and songs. In addition there are campaign action ideas and stories from around the world of those affected by the current system of international trade.

For more information about trade and campaigning, and getting involved in the rest of the Global Week of Action, please download or order the free Action Guide that accompanies this Worship Guide from www.e-alliance.ch/gwa_order.jsp



Peter Williams/WCC

We must stand for basic, uncompromising, economic security -
for all the world's citizens - in the midst of globalization.

Rick Ufford-Chase, Moderator, PC(USA)

What's the big idea?

The big idea is a Global Week of Action on trade, from 10-16 April 2005. **The big idea** is everyone who cares about injustice in international trade can speak out. **The big idea** is a moment when all movements and campaigns active on international trade take action locally to produce a global impact. **The big idea** is to change the lives of millions of poor people across the world. **The big idea** is that people of faith are at the forefront of this movement.

Compelled by the Gospel to act

The Gospel leads Christians to a commitment to a just and equitable society in which every human being has God-given significance and dignity. No one should be oppressed or marginalized. Each should be embraced as a member of the same family. The aim of all human activity should be to glorify God in all creation.

In Luke 4:18-19¹, Jesus stands up in the synagogue and explains why he has come:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

As members of the worldwide Church we are all called to take part in this mission of Christ to preach good news to the poor². We are called to pay special attention to the poor, those the Bible refers to as strangers, widows and orphans; those who are often overlooked; those at the sharp end of international trade.

As the body of Christ we are called to act when we see suffering in another part of the worldwide body. We cannot let others starve while we have our fill. We cannot sit idly by while others suffer the crippling effects of poverty. We are called to stand in the tradition of Old and New Testament prophets, like Ezekiel and Amos, who spoke out against injustice. We need, like them, to dare to offer a vision of hope for a better future and then be bold enough to take action.

Call to Action

We call upon all faith communities, social movements, mass organizations, local and national campaigns and coalitions to join together to organize a Global Week of Action from 10-16 April 2005, and to continue working for trade justice until everyone has sufficient food, water, health, education and dignity.

¹ All biblical quotations in this guide come from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

² Deuteronomy 24:19-22

Faith and trade



Christian Aid/Penny Tweedie

Trade is a basic act in any society. It has the potential to bring about enormous good. An exchange between parties, if fair, can be of mutual benefit and increase human well-being. But trade on unequal terms is damaging, creates and maintains inequities, and can lead to violence, conflict and environmental destruction. Trade should be a means to share the bounty of the earth and the fruits of human labor. Yet too often it is a force that yields poverty, despair, injustice and death.

Person after person, in community after community, country after country, all across the world could tell their story about how unjust international trade has taken away their livelihood and is keeping them and their family destitute. (For some of their stories see page 13.)

Tipping the Balance

It is the wealthy countries who benefit from the present set of trade rules. Current global trading systems are dominated by a few economic powers - rich country governments, transnational corporations, stock markets and multilateral institutions. Their control of capital and technology, their political and cultural influence, and their military might is overwhelming. They set the rules in their favor, force economic liberalization on the poor and prevent their access to the global market on equal terms.

For poor countries liberalization means reducing the help their governments can give to vulnerable farmers, producers and traders. It means privatizing essential services - such as water, health care and education. It means exposing their own vulnerable economies to transnational corporations whose own growth is protected by powerful interests. International trade is failing the poorest and keeping billions trapped in abject poverty.

But it could be so different. Millions of people want to be able to trade their way out of poverty. All they are lacking is a fair chance to do so. The rules need to be changed to empower these marginalized countries and communities to develop their economies and trading systems. There are constructive alternatives to the present system, possibilities that have been shown to work. For more information, see the Action Guide, the proposals of the Trade for People campaign at www.e-alliance.ch/gwa_resources.jsp and action suggestions on the PC(USA) Just Trade website www.pcusa.org/trade.

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) General Assembly's Stand on Trade Justice

The PC(USA) supports efforts to strive toward international cooperation based on fair trade, respect for diversity, and common concerns for a peaceful, just, and sustainable world. The PC(USA) opposes multinational actions and trade agreements that elevate rights of corporations over the right of governments and indigenous peoples to pass and enforce laws that preserve the public good and protect their citizens, economies, and environments.

215th General Assembly (2003)

We, as the global Church must continue to raise our prophetic voice. Let us resonate the demand of the people all around the world for just trade.

Norma P. Dollaga, National Council of Churches in the Philippines

The Bible and trade justice

The Bible is filled with examples of injustice that could have been written to describe international trade today. However, these examples are also accompanied by a vision of justice³. The biblical vision of justice in economic activity, including the trade of goods and services, means taking the side of the poor: fair payment, transparent relationships, no exploitation, and respect for life, ensuring the care of widows, children and strangers.

The vision cannot be reduced to mere equality of opportunity for all individuals to compete. Such 'equality' has primarily helped the rich and powerful to gain more power and a greater share of the world's resources and to create power elites that often oppress and exploit others. Instead, we must call for rules specifically weighted in favor of the poor.

We are inspired by the Old Testament prophets who challenged the injustices of society and international trade. Using the concept of righteousness they called for trade to be an instrument to work towards a sustainable, participatory and just society, with special protection for the poorest. Ezekiel and Isaiah spoke out against ancient Tyre when the poor went hungry and were exploited by the rich⁴. In Amos 8:4-6 judgment is pronounced on Israel for their neglect of the poor and for the injustice in their trading system. Amos 5:21-24 tells them, and us, what is required instead.

Standing in this tradition, we are compelled to action by both the Old and New Testament understanding of justice as taking the side of the poor and oppressed⁵. We acknowledge the challenge this presents for U.S. Christians who enjoy the fruits of "free trade." Nonetheless, our response must be to side with the poor and take action in solidarity with our suffering brothers and sisters.

Faith put into action works!

A simple reason to join in campaigning for trade justice is it can actually work! Think of the campaigns to ban landmines, cancel unpayable debt, abolish apartheid, and advocate for civil rights. They show what can be achieved when different groups and sectors of society from across the world come together in united action for justice. The Church has been a key player in these campaigns and it is time for the Church to take its place at the heart of the international trade campaign.

Sunday, 10 April will be the start of the Global Week of Action, and worship services in the churches will launch the events in the rest of the week. If the churches take a lead in speaking out and taking action in each country and in every community, imagine what can be achieved together!



Christian Aid/Adrian Arbib

³ See also Leviticus 25:8-55; Deuteronomy 15:1-12

⁴ Ezekiel 28:3-18; Isaiah 23:1-17; Joel 3:5

⁵ Luke 1:51-53; 4:18; 5:20-25; 18:24; James 2:1-7; 4:13-5:6

Good news for the poor is that they are poor no more.

Steven Mohammed, New Testament Church of God, Trinidad

Planning your service

This liturgy has been written especially for the Global Week of Action. It is intended to be used by people all around the world, and it has been designed so that it can be adapted to suit local use by selecting hymns, scripture readings and prayers. There is not an actual celebration of the Eucharist, although you may choose to celebrate it after the offering. You may also wish to reduce the symbolic acts, or to use only the text or selected parts of the text.

The liturgy on pages I-IV can be photocopied and given to each member of the congregation. It can also be downloaded as a Word file from www.pcusa.org/trade/worship.htm and adapted.

For the symbolic actions you will need:

- Four lengths of cloth, **green** (creation and the journey through ordinary Sundays), **purple** (the waiting periods of Lent and Advent), **white** (Easter and Christmas Days, the coming of the life of God) **red** (the coming of the Holy Spirit as our guide)
- Strips of golden ribbon or thread
- A bowl of seeds and a bowl of fruit
- Wine or juice in a jug to pour into a chalice
- A large basket with several loaves of bread
- Baskets for the gathering of the offering
- Material for the campaign action.



Christian Aid/Paul Lowe/Magnum

The colors and the cloths

The idea behind the liturgy is to connect the colors and themes of the church year with our lives and with trade justice, as we walk a pathway together towards a more just life. The colored cloths should be large, if possible, to be visible to the whole congregation. They can be hung or spread from a central focus at the front of the church, down a central aisle, across a sanctuary area or stage, or hanging in parallel strips across an Altar or Communion Table. Alternatively, instead of using all of the colored cloth, you may choose to simply use one white cloth on the Altar or Communion Table and another to flow from the table.

Take action

We suggest that you take a campaign action as an integral part of the service in response to the Word. This will need to be planned in advance so that you are sure it will work. One action being taken by people worldwide is the Trade for People petition. This and more action ideas are explained on page 14. See www.pcusa.org/trade for further information.

Worship Service on Trade and Globalization

CALLED TO RESTORE THE FABRIC OF HUMAN COMMUNITY Order of Service

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT *(if appropriate)*

Leader: We acknowledge that we are on the land of our Indigenous people.
We honor their care of this part of the earth,
their capacity to tread lightly over God's creation and to share its gifts.

WE CELEBRATE THE CREATION

Leader: God looked into emptiness and created all that is.
God spread out the earth in its diversity with mountains and valleys, rivers and fertile plains.
There were patches of flood and fire, of dryness and of vivid green,
embraced by wind and sea - a sun-filled landscape of hospitality.

*The green cloth is spread and seeds
and fruit are placed towards the end of the cloth*

And, threading through it all,
like weavings of golden hope,
were dreams of justice and compassion
and gentle streams of peace.

The golden threads are placed on the green cloth and among the fruit and seeds

God gathered all peoples into community,
gave a sigh of joy
and set us free to choose our path
in a daring adventure of trust.

All: This is our God
This is the wonder of our calling in faith.
Let us worship God.

Song

THE CREATION GROANS

The lament and confession

*One side of the congregation can become Voice 1 (representing the poor people of the world) and the other half become Voice 2 (representing the rich).
Otherwise two individuals could be used.*

Leader: As we come together across the world
and stand before the Holy God,
The voices of the people rise in lament and confession:

Voice 1: We weep, O God, for the lives of our people. We toil day and night and still our children go hungry. We sow the fields, planting your seeds of abundance and bringing in the gifts of your harvest. But this is torn from our hands and all that is left are the crumbs from tables of the rich. The gap grows wider and wider as we die from lack of health care and fall back in life without education and freedom.

Voice 2: We bow our heads in shame, O God, for our tables groan with plenty. Our only questions are about which good thing to eat, and how much is too much. We puzzle over what more we can choose to add to our clothes, our homes and our style of living. As we hear the cries of the suffering people in the distance, we know that we have betrayed your dream. We have failed to live in your just community.

A silence is kept

Leader: Lord have mercy.
All: Christ have mercy.

Worship Service on Trade and Globalization

Voice 1: Why have you deserted us, O God? We cry for help and you do not listen? The whole creation groans in pain with us as we wait for the children of God to emerge. Save us and help us, O Christ. Call to your children, O God.

Voice 2: O Christ, for whom each one is precious, as we look at our daily world, we know all too well that it is built on the exploitation of others. We hardly dare to see what it costs them. We turn our faces away from their weeping, always waiting for another day, another time, another political leader to act for us in the bringing in of your justice.

A silence is kept

Leader: Lord have mercy.

All: Christ have mercy.

Leader: O God, in grief, we cover your dream for creation with this purple cloth -

the color of preparing, of waiting and of longing for the life of Christ to be seen among us.

The seeds and fruit on the end of the green cloth are covered with a purple cloth.

Hear our prayers, O God.

All: Hold in the hollow of your hand those who cry out to you.

Forgive those who come to you in grieving confession and bring us all to your abundant life, we pray, O God. Amen.

THE COMING OF THE WORD

The assurance

Leader: Nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of Christ Jesus.

God hears the cries of the people and gathers them into arms of love and justice.

Those who come in repentance and faith are forgiven

and invited to be part of the restoration of the reign of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

We will receive the word and follow the Christ into new life for us and for all the world.

Amen.

Children's program

The readings

Song

The sermon

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Song

Campaign action taken during the song

The affirmation of faith

In response to the Word, let us affirm our faith together:

All: We believe in God the Creator,
loving parent of all who live,
weeping when a child is wounded
by injustice,
angry within the protests of the despairing
and exploited,
and crying out as the voice of the silenced.

We believe in Jesus Christ,
overturning the tables of injustice,
determined in the face of oppression,
brave when the cost of life rises high,
and dying rather than giving up love.

Worship Service on Trade and Globalization

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
passionate wind of power for change,
giver of gifts for the struggle
and flame of fire to light and warm
the way for the bearers of truth.

We believe in the Triune God,
the God of every time and place
and we will carry the life of this God
into all the world.

The longing

Our prayers of intercession

Leader: O God, even as we affirm our faith,
we know that we are your humble and human people.
We need your help in all that we hope to do in your name.
We long to live as those who join with you
in the transforming of life.

All: Take our lives this day, O Christ,
that we may truly be your people.
We are listening to the sounds in the world of trade.
We have heard the longing of the peoples of the world as they reach out to us and plead
for the just sharing of all you have given to us.
Their stories will now become our prayers to you, O God:

Individual members of the congregation read out Voices 1-7

Voice 1: I am Emmanuel Mubiru, a coffee farmer from Uganda. The world price for coffee is at a historic low. I am becoming poorer and poorer. My house is falling down, and I am struggling to keep my children in school.

Voice 2: I am Fiona Black, working for the dairy industry in Jamaica. Dairy farmers are crying out for help. Export subsidies are killing the developing countries. Jamaican farmers are pleading with you.

Voice 3: I am Muracin Claircin, I used to grow and sell rice in Haiti until the market was opened to imports of cheap subsidized rice from the US. There's no incentive to grow rice any more. It's virtually impossible to make a profit.

Voice 4: I am Hawa Amadu, a landlady in Ghana. My country's water has been sold as a condition for aid. Foreign companies now control the water

supply. Sometimes I will go without food so my grandchildren can have water.

Voice 5: I am Vicente Gomez Gutierrez, a small-scale farmer in Mexico. Our hope is nothing more than this - to be able to sell our crops for a reasonable price so that we have enough to eat. We don't ask for anything else.

Voice 6: I am Xuyen, a nine-year old child in Vietnam and I have AIDS. Because international trade rules impose patents on drugs, my government cannot afford to treat me or even give me basic antibiotics. I died while this service was being written.

Voice 7: I am Bakary Diarra, a cotton farmer in Mali. We can only salute you for wanting to campaign on our behalf. We are in a hole that we can't get out of. May God support you in your campaigning work.

Leader: Our hearts are moved by their longings, O God.
Carry our lives close to yours, Jesus Christ,
that we may be empowered to move into the prophetic action
which will ensure that all people may be present at God's feast of life.

A silence is kept

Give to us now all the gifts which we need
to begin to make a difference, O God.

All: Take our lives this day, O Christ,
that we may truly be your people.
We commit ourselves to you now
and for the days to come.
Amen.

Worship Service on Trade and Globalization

Setting the table

Leader: In every age, we are called
to restore God's dream for human community,
to restore a table for all the world
which overflows with God's abundance.
As we spread this white cloth,
the color for the celebration of the coming of the Word and the risen life of Christ,
we will announce that the waiting time for our action is over.
A white cloth is spread from the end of the purple cloth

The offering

Leader: Let us bring our offerings to God.
The offering is received
We offer our gifts and our commitment to you, O God,
as our first offering in this Global Week of Action for trade justice.
The campaign actions are placed on the table
The fruit will be trampled to create the wine of compassion.
The chalice is filled with wine or juice and is placed on the white cloth
The seeds of the harvests will be crushed for the bread of justice.
Large baskets full of loaves of bread are also placed
Receive these, our offerings, O God.
Expand them with your love, courage and grace.

As the bread is broken and shared,
let us receive this as the nourishing of justice in us.
It will give us energy and courage for the changing of the world.
*Some of the bread is handed out to all present to eat
and gold strips are placed across the white cloth*
Risen and abundant life flows forth from the life of the Christ.

All: **We will be the advocates for those
who are not sharing in this abundance.
We will gather them into the grand and just feast of God.**

THE SENDING OUT

Leader: God will send to us the Holy Spirit to be our guide,
creating for us a bright red carpet of new possibilities.
We will walk along this pathway of hope,
with the sisters and brothers from around the world
who join with us in stretching out our hands
towards trade justice for all people.
*A red cloth is spread with the golden threads of justice and compassion
from the white cloth placed in a flow towards the door of the church.
The chalice is held high, the baskets overflowing with bread and the offerings
are held out towards the world.*

The commissioning

Leader: Go forth into this new week of action for justice.
Go in faith and courage as the emerging children of God.

All: **We will go in faith.**

Song

*The symbols are carried over the red cloth, down the central aisle and
out of the church door and into the world as the people sing.*

The blessing

Leader: And may God the Creator plant seeds of new community,
Christ Jesus spread the feast of plenty before us all
and the Holy Spirit surround the world with melodies of justice.

All: **Amen**

Sermon ideas



Peter Williams/WCC

Luke 24: 13-35
Psalm 116: 1-4, 12-19
1 Peter 1: 17-23
Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Revised Common Lectionary for Sunday, 10 April 2005

Suggested sermon outline

Based on Luke 24: 13-35. The Walk to Emmaus

This account happens after the resurrection of Christ. In Luke's gospel the two people on the road to Emmaus are the first people to see the risen Christ. They don't recognize him at first. The real presence and identity of Jesus is only revealed when bread is broken and **shared**.

Christ's mission, our calling: Good news to the poor

- **Mission of Christ.** Earlier in Luke, Jesus has explained his mission to bring 'good news to the poor'. (Luke 4: 18-19)
- **Our calling.** We are now all called to fulfill the mission of Christ in bringing good news to the poor. In Luke 4 Jesus gives us a vision of what is possible. In the breaking of bread in Luke 24 He gives us an example to follow, the reassurance of His presence and the power of His resurrection.
- **Sharing with others.** The real presence of Jesus was only revealed on the road to Emmaus when the bread was broken and shared. In a similar way the presence of Christ is revealed as we take part in the mission of Christ, as we share with others, in solidarity in their suffering, and in common action for justice.

The world today

- **The poor and trade.** Many of those who are poor in today's world became so as a result of international trade rules. We need to be aware of the facts. We need to know about the way in which the rich have taken the gifts of God and the hard labor and life of millions of people in order to sustain those who already have more than their share.
- **Stories.** Trade is not just business and economics, but food, water, health, education and livelihoods. We are talking about the lives of millions of ordinary people, like those on page 13. Tell one of their stories.

What are we called to do?

- **Our own walk to Emmaus.** We have celebrated God's creation, as well as lamented and confessed our failure to live in just community. Now we must play our part and join the walk to Emmaus - bringing good news to the poor, restoring the fabric of human community symbolized by the threads and cloth laid before us, and taking a step today for trade justice along with millions of people all over the world who take part in the Global Week of Action on Trade.
- **Taking action.** The Gospel imperative to take action for justice is clear. We can do something practical - something that makes a difference. We can take action together in response to the Word of God, to begin this work of justice. (You may wish to explain the campaign action you have chosen to take during the song, immediately after the sermon. See the action ideas on page 14).

For alternative sermon texts about trade justice go to www.e-alliance.ch/gwa_resources.jsp

Before you finish eating your breakfast this morning, you've depended on half the world.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Children's program

Suggested children's talk outline

Tell a story about the way God gave us enough so that everyone could sit around a table and share - like at a party.



Paul Jeffrey/EAA

Invite the children to come and sit round in a circle. Explain that some people decided to take more than their share. They would not invite others to the party. Tell one of the stories of the people left out, from page 13.

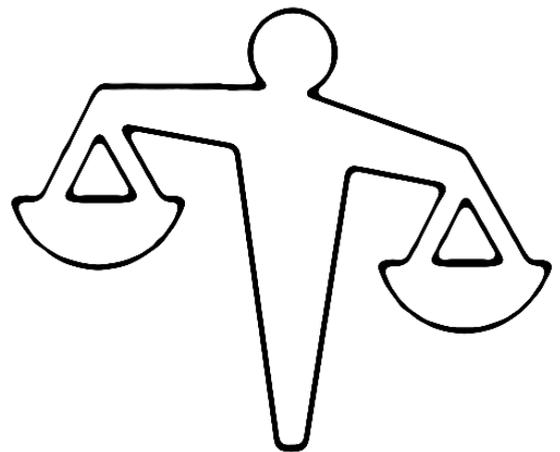
Ask the children to make gaps between them that belong to the people missing out on the feast.

Give the children pieces of paper. Help them to write the names of some of the countries where excluded people live. Explain that God asks us all to do something so that everyone has a place at the table.

The pieces of paper can be placed on the white cloth during the offering so that all people can now be included.

Other children's activities

- Hold an 'unfair game'. Choose any game or sport and outrageously rig the rules in favor of one of the teams. This could be done outside as a sport where you could use blindfolds, unequal teams, different sized goals, a sloping pitch etc. It can also be done inside, for example with a board game. This will get the message across about how unfair international trade is.
- Ask the children to draw or paint pictures of what the world would be like if trade helped everybody and everybody had enough.
- Older children could be helped to write simple letters to people responsible for trade policies. See www.e-alliance.ch/gwa_resources.jsp for tips on letter writing.
- Use the scales symbol, the international symbol for trade justice. Children can make badges, draw pictures, cut out cloth or make sculptures in the form of the scales symbol. The symbol can be downloaded from www.pcusa.org/trade/worship.htm



Color in the trade justice logo

If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,' and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that?
James 2:15-16

People stories



Christian Aid/Fabienne FosseZ

At its heart, trade is not an economic issue; it's a human one. It affects the lives and livelihoods of thousands of poor people across the world every day. Here are three of their stories.

'To get ourselves out of poverty we are working harder and harder to produce better cotton, but this is not working. The odds are stacked against us.' Bakary Diarra

Cotton in Mali - Cotton prices are at their lowest levels in 70 years. Massive subsidies granted by northern countries, especially the USA, are forcing the world price down. This is having a dire effect on countries such as Mali, where a third of the

population are dependent on cotton

for their income. There is little they can do about it. In the 2002/03 growing season, Malian cotton farmers like Bakary Diarra received just \$0.25 per kg for their cotton, whereas US farmers received \$1.47.

'Once this was all rice - as far as you can see. And this is what I want it to be again.' Maria Marcos Riveira

Rice in Honduras - At the beginning of the 1990s Honduras produced 50,000 tons of rice per year. By 2001, overwhelmed by imports, it produced just over 7000 tons. The government-run rice marketing board used to operate a price-support system for Honduran rice farmers and also controlled imports.

However, this was restructured in the 1990s as one of the conditions of the structural adjustment agreement with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. This has meant that for the last 10 years Honduran rice has been competing with imports of heavily subsidized rice from the US. One by one, poor, small-scale family farmers like Maria Marcos Riveira have dropped out of the rice market and slipped back to subsistence farming.



Christian Aid/Felicia Webb/IPG

'The first day we visited her house, Mama Sasa was out at a funeral'

AIDS drugs in Lesotho - Mama Sasa, takes care of twenty children and seven adults living with AIDS and without treatment. Their immediate families have died from the disease. Mama Sasa shares her house and everything else with them and most are not even directly related to her. In Lesotho 680,000 people, almost a third of the population, are living with HIV. Only 1,000 of these are receiving ARVs, the antiretroviral drugs to treat HIV. Average annual income in Lesotho is US\$100 whereas the cost to treat someone with the patented drugs is more than US\$400. Northern drug companies are making huge profits on these lifesaving drugs while current international trade rules make it difficult to manufacture or import cheaper generic versions.



P. Virof/WHO

Story courtesy of World Health Organization HIV/AIDS Dept.

Take action

Action ideas for the service

- **Letters.** Write letters to local or national politicians. If there is no time for each member of the congregation to write their own letter they could sign a letter that has been drafted beforehand. See www.pcusa.org/trade/action.htm for current action alerts.
- **Commitment to act.** Instead of asking the congregation to sign a letter, petition or postcard, ask them to sign a 'commitment to act' for trade justice, during the Week of Action and beyond.
- **Petitions.** Collect signatures on a trade petition. The Trade for People Campaign petition can be used here. The petition has been developed so that it can be used to put pressure on local politicians, organizations or governments. In addition, national and international church leaders are also encouraged to sign the petition. These will be delivered to the World Trade Organization in Geneva after the Week of Action. Download the petition at www.e-alliance.ch/gwa_resources.jsp

How to make your service have more impact

- **Church bells.** Churches across the world will be ringing their bells on the morning of Sunday, 10 April, signaling the start of the Global Week of Action. You can do the same. Ask other churches in your area and denomination to do so too.
- **Fast for trade justice.** On Monday 11 April 2005, churches around the world are fasting in solidarity with those who suffer as a result of international trade. This is to show that trade is about life and death, about livelihoods and about basic necessities. Why not join them?
- **Ecumenical event.** Organize an ecumenical event with other local churches during the Global Week of Action. Or after the service on Sunday, why not come together with as many local churches as possible to join in a procession to a central public place? Or join with other local churches and plan the ecumenical service together.
- **Vigil or public action.** After the service hold a vigil outside the office of a local political leader or in another appropriate public place. Make it visual, for instance representing the 800 million people who go to bed hungry each night with candles or grain.
- **High profile personalities.** Invite a bishop, local politician or local media to the service or vigil. Ask them to take part. Ask them to endorse the Global Week of Action before the service.
- **Events later in the week.** Publish trade justice events taking place later in the week in your church bulletin. Or hand out invitations and encourage members of the congregation to take part in them.
- **Bible study.** Hold a Bible study session on trade justice issues.
- **Use the scales symbol.** Put this in your church bulletin, make and display the symbol. Ask children to make scales for the service.



Christian Aid/Simon Townsley

The symbol and more resources can be downloaded www.e-alliance.ch/gwa_resources.jsp

The whole world is upside down because it puts economics before the human and social needs of people. We need to have different rules.
Trinidad Sanchez, Director of COMAL, Honduras

Prayers and songs



Peter Williams/WCC

Below are some prayers that you could include in worship services, Sunday schools, vigils and other faith gatherings for the Global Week of Action on trade.

More ideas can be found at

www.e-alliance.ch/gwa_resources.jsp

O Lord Christ, who became poor that we might be rich,
deliver us from a comfortable conscience if we believe or intend
that others should be poor that we might be rich;
for in God's economy,
no one is expendable.
Grant us instead the riches of love.
(World Alliance of Reformed Churches)

It is not from your own possessions that you are bestowing alms on the poor, you are but restoring to them what is theirs by right. For what was given to everyone for the use of all, you have taken for your exclusive use. The earth belongs not to the rich, but to everyone. Thus, far from giving lavishly, you are but paying part of your debt.
(St Ambrose, 340-397)

I dare to pray: Lord, let the world be changed,
for I long to see the end of poverty;
I dare to pray: Lord, let the rules be changed,
for I long to see trade bring justice to the poor;
I dare to pray: Lord, let my life be changed,
for I long to bring hope where good news is needed.

In the strength of your Spirit
and inspired by Your compassion,
I make this promise to work for change,
and wait confidently for the day
when You make all things new. Amen
(Peter Graystone, Christian Aid)

Give us, O Lord, churches that will be more courageous than cautious;
that will not merely "comfort the afflicted" but "afflict the comfortable";
that will not only love the world but also demand justice;
that will not remain silent when people are calling for a voice;
that will not pass by on the other side when wounded humanity is waiting to be healed;
that will not only call us to worship but also send us out to witness;
that will follow Christ even when the way points to a Cross.
To this end we offer ourselves in the name of him who loved us and gave himself for us.
(Christian Conference of Asia)

Ideas for songs to use in the liturgy or as part of other events can be found at
www.e-alliance.ch/gwa_resources.jsp



Just Trade Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

For more information on the Global Week of Action visit:
www.april2005.org, www.pcusa.org/trade and www.e-alliance.ch/gwa.jsp

Additional copies

To order full-color, printed versions call 800-524-2612, PDS # 74365-05-360
To download Worship Guide or for copies of the original EAA version in English, German, Spanish, Portuguese - www.pcusa.org/trade/worship.htm
The accompanying Action Guide for the Global Week of Action can also be ordered or downloaded at www.e-alliance.ch/gwa_order.jsp

Further resources

For PC(USA) resources, articles, analysis, photos and action ideas on trade and globalization go to www.pcusa.org/trade or call (888) 728-7288 x5388

For more worship resources, prayers, songs, sermon ideas, campaign actions, stories and facts about trade go to www.e-alliance.ch/gwa_resources.jsp

"I had just awakened to all that is happening here in Bolivia: the debt, trade issues, indigenous rights. I felt like I had just opened my eyes in time to see a giant wave crashing down upon us. It was terrifying. And yet through this relationship with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) I know we are not alone in trying to hold back the waters."

Rev. Luis Perez Alancoa, Pastor of Independent Presbyterian Church in Bolivia; President of the Bolivia Network for Joining Hands Against Hunger, PC(USA)

Acknowledgements

Original publication in 2004 by the Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance, Geneva, Switzerland www.e-alliance.ch/trade.jsp

Revised & republished in 2005 by the Presbyterian Hunger Program, a ministry of the General Assembly Council, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) www.pcusa.org



The EAA is a broad ecumenical network for coordinated international advocacy on HIV/AIDS and global trade.

Liturgy written by Dorothy McRae-McMahon, The Uniting Church in Australia. Other contributions by Christian Aid and the EAA.

Printed on 100% recycled paper

Cover photographs front - top: Peter Williams/WCC, centre: Christian Aid/Paul Lowe/Magnum, Bottom: Christian Aid/Kim Naylor; back - Peter Williams/WCC.

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