# **News Release: Geoscience Research Institute**

30 January 2023

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### For immediate release:

# Creation Sabbath shares the Gospel through art

We don't usually think of Ellen White as an artist, yet in the midst of her career, during 1883, she commissioned a work of art entitled "Christ the way of life." This print emphasizes the centrality of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross to the doctrine of salvation by faith. The story of salvation is laid out as a circular sequence of events starting with disaster in the Garden of Eden and leading to the new creation. Each year, as part of the lead up to Creation Sabbath, a work of art is produced and the 2023 Creation Sabbath art is inspired by this same theme.

Creation Sabbath is a yearly event voted by the General Conference Executive Committee, made up of every union and division officer in the worldwide Church. It falls on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sabbath of every October, occurring this year on October 28, 2023. This global celebration has been observed in thousands of Adventist churches, schools, other institutions and homes around the world. It is something that is open to everyone interested in worshiping the Creator and presents a special opportunity to preach the First Angel's Message found in Revelation 14:6,7 to the communities that we serve.

Created by well-known Bible prophecy illustrator <u>Steve Creitz</u>, the 2023 Creation Sabbath artwork picks up on some of the same elements as Ellen White's 1883 illustration, but emphasizes the present, where the viewer stands in a beautiful but broken world. From this perspective, where we all find ourselves, the Sabbath liberates us to see, through faith, the new creation for which we long. Being freed from the fetters of sin through Christ's sacrifice on the

cross and the power of the Holy Spirit, we see the sea of glass and New Jerusalem. The Holy Spirit is symbolized by oil in the lampstand and the light it sheds symbolizes God's omnipresence as well as Jesus as the light of the world. {JTL44.4}

Instead of using a circular sequence as a timeline for history, the circular Creation Sabbath logo serves as a symbol of the Sabbath, when we—by faith—see the new creation. Inscribed on this portal is the Latin phrase "*Credo ut intelligam*" which comes from the writings of Anselm of Canterbury, who pointed out that it is through faith that we understand, not the other way around.

Anyone can use the 2023 Creation Sabbath art to share the good news that Jesus is coming, that His grace is sufficient to save all humanity, and that His judgement means a new creation unmarred by death and suffering. Resources are freely available at:

## Creationsabbath.net

This includes files for printing posters, making bulletins and bulletin inserts, all of which are free. T-shirts and other great Creation Sabbath merchandise are also available for purchase which supports the Creation Sabbath mission to spread the everlasting gospel of Revelation 14:6,7 with the world.

Steve Creitz shares his passion,

"As someone who has dedicated their life to helping others understand the biblical prophecies, I'm excited to be involved with Creation Sabbath. While prophecy gives us an informed understanding of history and our place in it, with all the change that occurs over time there is a constant, the Sabbath, which God established at the creation and celebrates with the saints in the prophesied new creation. As a creative, I can't wait to meet the Creator of all things!"

Elder Alberto Timm of the Biblical Research Institute expressed satisfaction in "seeing the work of Ellen White inspiring new and innovative approaches to sharing the central message of her ministry, that God is love." In reality, this is the message that we all have to share with the world, God loved us so much that He made us, God loves us so much that He has saved us, God loves us so much that He is creating a new heaven and a new earth (Revelation 21:1) with no more death and no more tears (Revelation 21:4), a place where we can dwell with Him for eternity. That's worth celebrating on Creation Sabbath, October 28, 2023.

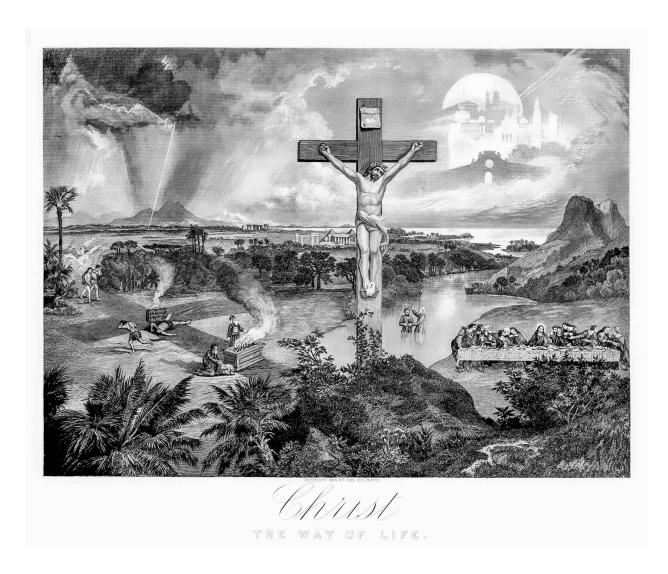
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True education is not the forcing of instruction on an unready and unreceptive mind. The mental powers must be awakened, the interest aroused. For this, God's method of teaching provided. He who created the mind and ordained its laws, provided for its development in accordance with them. In the home and the sanctuary, through the things of nature and of art, in labor and in

festivity, in sacred building and memorial stone, by methods and rites and symbols unnumbered, God gave to Israel lessons illustrating His principles and preserving the memory of His wonderful works. Then, as inquiry was made, the instruction given impressed mind and heart. Ellen G. White. 1903. *Education*. Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press Publishing Association, p 41.

### For more information visit:

- 1. Creation Sabbath <a href="https://creationsabbath.net/">https://creationsabbath.net/</a>
- 2. Steve Creitz <a href="https://prophecyart.com/">https://prophecyart.com/</a> and <a href="https://prophecyart.com/">https://prophecyart.c
- 3. Geoscience Research Institute <a href="https://www.grisda.org/">https://www.grisda.org/</a>



"Christ the Way of Life" copyrighted by Ellen G. White in 1883, one of the inspirations for the 2023 Creation Sabbath art by Steve Creitz.



The 2023 Creation Sabbath art by Steve Creitz. In the foreground, we see our current world, imperfect, yet still retaining hints of its original beauty. Through the portal of faith, represented by the Creation Sabbath logo, we see the new creation that our Savior has prepared for us. The cross reminds us of the price He paid, the menorah of God's presence through the Holy Spirit, the shackles of His power to free us from slavery to sin and death.