Tune of Simple Gifts

**chorus**

Speak, then, wherever we may be  
The piece of the truth we are able to see  
Our aim and goal is to protect life in all forms  
Breaking through denial as our climate warms.

Verse 1

Martin Luther saw the church had become corrupt  
His path was not to follow, but rather to disrupt  
He challenged authority, that Spirit might live  
Luther taught us to be transformative.

Verse 2

Mother Teresa was called to serve the poor  
Easing suff’ring in the name of our loving Savior   
When they said the numbers of poor had stayed level  
She said, “We’re called to be faithful, not successful”.

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Verse 3  
Dr. Martin Luther King was hated and jailed  
For daring to insist that integration should prevail   
He forged transformation on love’s crucible   
And laws of justice immutable.

Verse 4  
Denying climate change is like the early church corrupt  
God calls us, like Luther, the old ways to disrupt  
Global warming hits the vulnerable hardest  
Work for transformation is surely blessed.

*Line 3: He said he may not live to see his dream fulfilled  
 . . . . . . . . . . .. . on the work we build.*

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*Julia Butterfly Hill*

*. . . . . . . .. . . . Luna still lives on*

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*What rhymes with convicted? Except that doesn’t land well at the end of a line  
what rhymes with testify? There may lie . . . . . to authority gives lie . . . .*

*This one is more light-hearted than the ones I’ve written in the last three months. That doesn’t mean, though, that climate is off the table. I can still mention it. I’m thinking this song is about the joy of activism.*

*What is the vocabulary of activism? Marches, rallies, phone calls,* ***testifying****being convicted, being woke and quietly stoked. I’d rather not use the sentence roots of ‘tis a gift. Find a new root, or let each line in the song be different from the others it’s going through my mind to do a parody, an song that’s an in-joke among activists. But I’m generally not a parody kind of girl.*

*Those beautiful images of Christians making a ring around Muslims so they could pray in peace. And Muslims making a line of clasped hands to protect Catholics in Egypt during Mass*

*Eyes*

*On a sacred prize*

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the second two lines are about courage . . . . but maybe use an image to show that . . . how God speaks to all who listen . . . .   
the underlying theme is that we as humans are evolving . . . . Jesus was deeply disruptive, dare I mention that fact? I think so, in a verse

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This verse would be for non-Catholic churches

*Martin Luther . . . . . John Wesley . . . . . . Dr. Martin Luther King (any/all churches)  
Oscar Romero*

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*When true simplicity is gained  
To bow and to bend we shan’t be ashamed  
To turn, turn will be our delight  
Til by turning, turning, we come ‘round right.*