

Prayer for Creation

Wednesday, October 22

Now if I believe in God's Son and remember that He became man, all creatures will appear a hundred times more beautiful to me than before. Then I will properly appreciate the sun, the moon, the stars, trees, apples, as I reflect that he is Lord over all things. ...God writes the Gospel, not in the Bible alone, but also on trees, and in the flowers and clouds and stars. – Martin Luther

Be Still, And Know Anne M. Harman

Psalm 46:11 D9 D D9 D Em/B Bm

The musical score is for a song in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two systems of music. The first system has five measures with lyrics 'Be still, Be still, Be'. The second system starts at measure 6 and has five measures with lyrics 'still and know that I am your God.'. Chords are indicated above the notes: D9, D, D9, D, Em/B, Bm in the first system, and A, G, F, D in the second system. There are triplets in the second system, measures 7 and 8.

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The Hand That Made Anne M. Harman

The musical score is for a song in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of two systems of music. The first system has five measures with lyrics 'The hand that made the hea-vens and earth, the hand that made the'. The second system starts at measure 4 and has five measures with lyrics 'sky and sea, the hand and heart of God has made you and me.'. Chords are indicated above the notes: C, Bb, C, Bb, C in the first system, and Bb, C, Bb, C in the second system. There is a triplet in the first system, measure 3.

Call to Worship

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, let us gather to worship the God of all Creation.

ALL: We come to celebrate God's gift of creation and to commit ourselves to its care.

Leader: Come, let us worship the Creator, the One who formed the heavens and the earth, the seas and all that is in them.

ALL: We come with grateful hearts to honor the One who made all things good.

Leader: Let the heavens proclaim God's glory, let the trees clap their hands, let the rivers sing with joy.

ALL: We join creation in praise and commit ourselves to its care.

Leader: The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

ALL: Let us rejoice and be glad in all that God has made.

Sung: The hand that made the heavens and earth...

Opening Prayer

Creator God, you have made a beautiful world, but we have not cared for it as we should. We confess that we have not cared for your creation as we should. We have polluted the air, the water, and the land. We have consumed more than we need and ignored the cries of the earth and the poor. Forgive us, Lord. Renew in us a spirit of stewardship and love. Help us to live in harmony with all you have made. Amen.

For the Beauty of the Earth



1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:



Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Text: Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835–1917, alt.
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

Scripture Reading Genesis 1:26-31

²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make humans^[a] in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth^[b] and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

²⁷ So God created humans^[c] in his image,
in the image of God he created them;^[d]
male and female he created them.

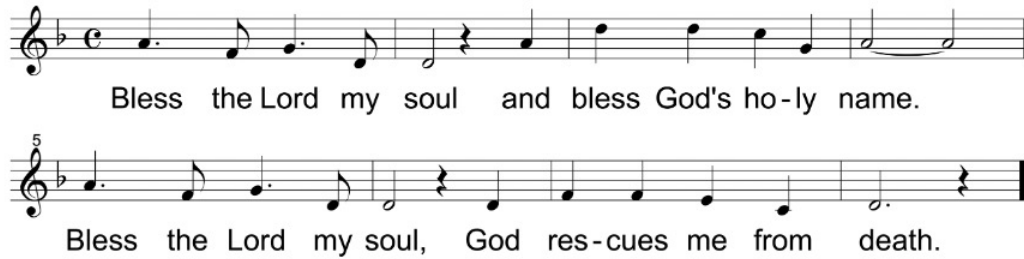
²⁸ God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” ²⁹ God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. ³¹ God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Responsive Reading

This responsive reading draws from Psalm 8, Psalm 19, Genesis 1-2, and Romans 8

Bless The Lord

TAIZE



Reader 2: O Lord, our God, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

ALL: The heavens declare your glory; the skies proclaim the work of your hands.

Reader 2: You formed the world and called it good, filling the earth with beauty and abundance.

ALL: You have entrusted this world to us, to till it and keep it with grateful hearts.

Reader 2: For the sunlight and rain, for fields and forests, for rivers, oceans, and mountains,

ALL: We thank you, O God, for your wondrous works and endless love.

Reader 2: Forgive us for the times we have neglected your creation, misused its gifts, or failed to care for our neighbors.

ALL: Restore in us a spirit of stewardship. Teach us wisdom to protect, preserve, and share your blessings.

Reader 2: Empower us, Holy Spirit, to be faithful caretakers, defenders of the earth and advocates for the vulnerable and those in need.

ALL: May we live with gratitude, walk gently upon your land, and serve your purposes in all creation.

Reader 2: All creation awaits in hope for the revealing of your children.

ALL: Lord, make us instruments of your love and reconciliation, for the healing of the world.

Silence

Prayer of Confession for Creation Care

Óyenos, Señor



Text: Bob Hurd, b. 1950, alt.

Music: ÓYENOS, Bob Hurd

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Forgive us God,
for our indifference to the destruction of wildlife,
for the greedy search for profit with no respect for life.
In your mercy, hear us.

Sung: Óyenos, Señor...

Forgive us God,
for the violence against the earth,
for our silence before devastated forests
and contaminated rivers.
In your mercy, hear us.

Sung: Óyenos, Señor...

Forgive us God,
for our voracious thirst to consume
without a thought of future generations,
or our fixation on the present
without thinking of tomorrow.
In your mercy, hear us.

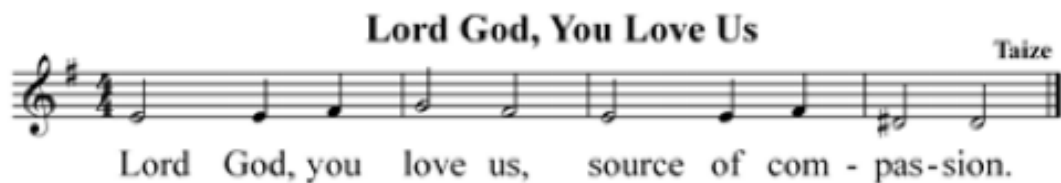
Sung: Óyenos, Señor...

Forgive our arrogance, God,
when we place ourselves
at the center of your universe.
Forgive us when we forget our place in creation
as one of your beloved creatures.
In your mercy, hear us.

Sung: Óyenos, Señor...

A Moment of Reconciliation and Commitment to Care for the Earth

*We pause in stillness to reflect on the gift of creation and our God-given call to tend
and care for this earth and every living creature.*



Teach Us To Love, To Till and Keep



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Deep Peace

Deep peace of the run - ning waves, deep peace of the
 flow - ing air, deep peace of the shin - ing stars to
 you, deep peace of the qui - et earth. earth.

To repeat *Last time*

The musical score for 'Deep Peace' is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. The first system has two staves (treble and bass clef) with lyrics 'Deep peace of the run - ning waves, deep peace of the'. The second system also has two staves with lyrics 'flow - ing air, deep peace of the shin - ing stars to'. The third system has two staves with lyrics 'you, deep peace of the qui - et earth. earth.'. Above the third system, there are two boxes labeled 'To repeat' and 'Last time' indicating repeat signs in the music.

Text: Celtic traditional; adapt. Ray Makeever, b. 1943
 Music: DEEP PEACE, Ray Makeever
 Text and music © 2009 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress

With All that I Am

Anne M. Harman

With all that I am, and all that I do, with all my heart and
 all my soul, O Lord, A-don-ai, O Lord, A-don-ai, O
 Lord, my God, I love you. I love you.

The musical score for 'With All that I Am' is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. The first system has a single staff (treble clef) with lyrics 'With all that I am, and all that I do, with all my heart and'. The second system has a single staff (treble clef) with lyrics 'all my soul, O Lord, A-don-ai, O Lord, A-don-ai, O'. The third system has a single staff (treble clef) with lyrics 'Lord, my God, I love you. I love you.'. There are measure numbers 4 and 7 indicated at the beginning of the second and third systems respectively.

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Affirmation of Faith:

Leader: We believe in God, maker of heaven and earth,

**ALL: Whose creative Word called forth life in beauty and abundance.
We believe that the earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
Entrusted to us as caretakers and stewards.**

Leader: We believe in Jesus Christ, the reconciler of all things,

**ALL: Who calls us to redeem and restore, to love our neighbor
and cherish creation.**

Leader: We believe in the Holy Spirit, breathing life into all living things,

**ALL: Renewing the face of the earth and empowering us
to protect and preserve God's world.**

Leader: We confess our failure to care, our misuse and neglect,

**ALL: Yet we trust in God's grace and forgiveness,
seeking a new way of living in harmony with all.**

Leader: We commit ourselves to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God,

**ALL: Working for the healing of creation and the flourishing of all life.
This is our faith. This is the hope to which we are called,
By the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Hymn: Earth Is Full of Wit and Wisdom – ACS 1064



1 Earth is full of wit and wis - dom, sound - ing God's de - light - ed laugh,
2 Earth is full of wit and wis - dom, wo - ven in - to har - mo - ny.
3 Earth is full of wit and wis - dom: pen - guin, pla - ty - pus, and snail,



from the ti - ny ro - ly - po - ly to the tree - top - tall gi - raffe.
Ev - 'ry crea - ture has a pur - pose, ev - 'ry flow'r and bum - ble - bee.
cac - tus, sea slug, oak, and al - gae, from the mi - crobe to the whale.



All cre - a - tion sings in won - der; e - ven rocks and trees re - joice
Spi - der, hu - man, red - wood, geck - o, mon - key, chick - en, mouse, and snake
In this great and strange cre - a - tion, with a breath God gives us birth:



as they join the ring - ing cho - rus: ech - oes of our Mak - er's voice.
live with - in a sin - gle fab - ric: cloth that on - ly God could make.
born of soil to live as stew - ards, called to love and serve the earth.

Text: Adam M. L. Tice, b. 1979

Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825; arr. hymnal version

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Arr. © 2003 Augsburg Fortress

Benediction

May the Creator God grant us the wisdom to honor and care for the earth.

May Christ, the eternal Word, inspire us to re-evaluate our use of environmental resources, and to protect vulnerable habitats and ecosystems

May the Spirit of life lead us to advocate for justice for all people and all creatures.

Go now in peace, to love and serve the Lord by loving and tending the earth. Amen.



St. Paul's Spirituality Center

an outreach ministry of St. Paul's Lutheran Church



An Evening of Remembrance and Grief Education

We will begin our evening with a simple meal of sandwiches.

After dinner, Becca Bass will lead a conversation about

how to be with people who are grieving,

with a special emphasis on grief during the holidays.

Our evening will conclude with Evening Prayer in the church.

Please bring a small framed picture of your loved one to place around the altar for our service.

Wednesday, October 29

5:15 PM-5:45 PM- Dinner - Fellowship Hall

5:45 PM- 7:00 PM Program: *Grief 101*

7:15 PM - Evening Prayer: "We Remember Them"

A free-will offering will be taken. Please register by October 26.

Gathering at St. John's Episcopal Church - 1676 S. Belcher Rd., Clearwater

[Grief 101 Registration Link](#)

To Register use the link or QR code.

A sign up sheet is also posted on the bulletin board



St. Paul's Spirituality Center

an outreach ministry of St. Paul's Lutheran Church



Taizé Prayer We Give You Thanks

Wednesday, November 12

7:15 PM

**St. Paul's gathers at St. John's Episcopal Church
1676 S. Belcher Rd., Clearwater**

ALL ARE WELCOME!





St. Paul's Spirituality Center

an outreach ministry of St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Advent Retreat

God's Story, Our Story

Saturday, December 6, 2025

9:00 - 4:00

We will explore the ways God's story intersects and informs our personal faith story.

Lunch will be served.

A free will offering will be taken.

For more information and to register please visit our website or use the QR code.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church
gathering at St. John's Episcopal Church
1676 S. Belcher Rd., Clearwater, FL 33764

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St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Gathering at St. John's Episcopal 1676 S. Belcher Rd., Clearwater, FL

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, a Reconciling in Christ congregation, embodies God's love, and promise of salvation through faith in Christ by extending inclusion and welcome to all.

We welcome the full, active participation of all who worship and minister with us. If you are interested in learning more about Jesus, God's life and action in the world and our lives, the Lutheran faith, or this congregation and how you can be more involved, please reach out to Pastor Anne.

Phone Number: 727- 446-7718

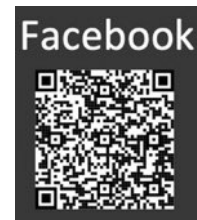
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Florida-Bahamas Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

