

*We Remember
We Celebrate
We Bless and are Blessed*



Sacred Earth



A. Land Acknowledgement

Let us begin this prayer by acknowledging the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples, many of whom continue to live and work here today. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties and is within the land protected by the “Dish With One Spoon Wampum” agreement.

B. All the Earth Is Sacred

Today we gather in this sacred Earth which has been a place of rest for our departed sisters and which has embraced them in peace and reverence.

C. Hymn-: For Countless Blessings - *C in S* 6.11

Refrain: For countless blessings given free, (2x)

O Jesus Christ be praised! (2x)

We find in you the source of life.

From you the living waters flow.
In you is drink for ev'ry thirst,
O font of never-ending love. **Refrain**

D. Reading: Laudato si #92

Everything is related, and we human beings are united as brothers and sisters on a wonderful pilgrimage, woven together by the love God has for each of his creatures and which also unites us in fond affection with brother sun, sister moon, brother river and mother earth.

**E. Prayer and Reflection –Father Wayne
Lobsinger**

Lord of all, God of the living , we praise you and give you thanks for this sacred place, Notre Dame Cemetery where for so many years the bodies of our sisters rested in peace and reverence. They are with you seeing you face to face. Their remains now rest in Gate of Heaven Cemetery. (As we leave Notre Dame Cemetery), we give thanks for this sacred ground. We know that this ground, as a natural part of mother earth, will continue to praise our God. We join together in thanksgiving through Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you in communion with the Holy Spirit. Amen

Intercessions:

We recall and give thanks to our God Who is the Heart, the Source of everything.

Response: Blessed be God forever!

GONG We pray in thanksgiving for this place of stillness which promises life even in the midst of death. **Response:** Blessed be God forever!

GONG We remember with deep affection all those whose names resound (will forever echo) in this space and whose faithful witness lives on and on and on. **Response:** Blessed be God forever!

GONG We give thanks for the many footsteps taken on this earth over the years as Sisters, relatives, friends and workers gathered to celebrate, visit and maintain the property. **Response:** Blessed be God forever!

GONG We give thanks for Earth, the fabric of our being which will rise in glory and oneness with the Christ and all creation. **R** Blessed be God forever!

F. Prayer of Blessing – *Praying with Earth* –
J. Philip Newell

May the love of life fill our hearts.

May the love of earth bring joy to heaven.

May the love of self deepen our souls.

May the love of neighbor heal our world.

As nations, as peoples, as families this day
may the love of life heal our world.

G. Hymn: For Countless Blessings - *C in S 6.11*

Refrain: For countless blessings given free, (2x)
O Jesus Christ be praised! (2x)

We see the light in you, O Christ.
Your brightness blesses all that is.
Your rising has dispelled the night.
O never- setting sun of life. **Refrain**