

Prayer for Creation

Because the earth and its resources are God's gift to all humanity, we are reverent, just, and sparing in our use of created things, concerned for the needs of present and future generations. - YAS GD 19a



Lord, help us to maintain a reverent attitude towards nature,
threatened from all sides today,
in such a way that we may restore it completely
to the condition of brother/sister
and to its role of usefulness to all humankind
for the glory of God the Creator.

— Franciscan prayer



Praised are you Adonai our God, who rules the universe, which lacks nothing; for God created fine creatures and pleasant trees in order that humans might enjoy them.

—The Rabbinical Assembly of Conservative Judaism



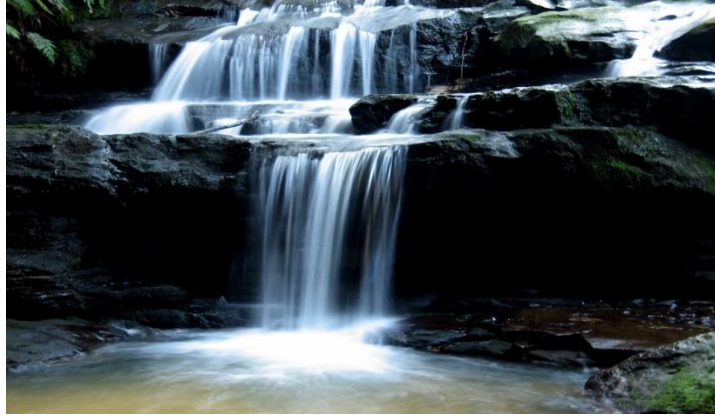
May the waters flow peacefully;
may the herbs and plants grow peacefully;
may all the divine powers bring unto us peace.
May the rain come down in the proper time,
may the earth yield plenty of corn,
may the country be free from war.
The supreme Lord is peace.

—Hindu prayer



God is the foundation for everything
This God undertakes, God gives.
Such that nothing that is necessary for life is lacking.
Now humankind needs a body that at all times honors and praises God.
This body is supported in every way through the earth.
Thus the earth glorifies the power of God.

—Hildegard of Bingen



Water comes from high mountain sources.
Water runs deep in the Earth.
Miraculously, water comes to us and sustains all life.
My gratitude is filled to the brim.

—Thich Nhat Hanh



Oh, Eagle; come with wings outspread in sunny skies.
Oh, Eagle, come and bring us peace, thy gentle peace.
Oh, Eagle, come and give new life to us who pray.
Remember the circle of the sky; the stars, and the brown eagle,
the great life of the Sun, the young within the nest.
Remember the sacredness of things.

—Pawnee prayer



Let us give thanks for the world around us.
Thanks for all the creatures, stones and plants
Let us learn their lessons and seek their truths,
So that their path might be ours,
And we might live in harmony, a better life.
May the Earth continue to live,
May the heavens above continue to live,
May the rains continue to dampen the land,
May the wet forests continue to grow,
Then the flowers shall bloom
And we people shall live again.

. —Hawaiian indigenous prayer

Let us reflect with the song “Touch the Earth” by Kathy Sherman, CSJ

Refrain:

Touch the earth with gentleness
Touch the earth with love
Touch her with a future
By the way you live today

God has given us the power
To create the world anew
If we touch the earth together
Me and you.

Closing prayer:

Gracious God, open our hearts and eyes to the wonders of your presence among us in all forms of being. Help us to reach beyond ourselves so that our love and concern embraces all creation that shares this universe with us. We pray this in union with the incarnate Word of God in whose image all was created. Amen.