



VESPERS FOR THE LAUDATO SI 10TH ANNIVERSARY, 2025

INTRODUCTION: Ten years have passed since the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor were heard anew—let us rejoice in the Spirit who renews the face of the earth.

OPENING PRAYER: The Lord's Prayer of Creation

Mother, Father, God, Universal Power remind us daily of the sanctity of all life. Touch our hearts with the glorious oneness of all creation as we strive to respect all the living beings on this planet. Penetrate our souls with the beauty of this Earth, as we attune ourselves to the rhythm and flow of the seasons. Awaken our minds with the knowledge to achieve a world in perfect harmony and grant us the wisdom to realize that we can have heaven on earth. Amen

HYMN: "All creatures of our God and king" or any hymn of praise and creation

PSALM 104:1–12

Antiphon 1: Bless the Lord, O my soul!

Bless the Lord, O my soul!
Lord my God, how great You are,
clothed in majesty and glory,
wrapped in light as in a robe!

You stretch out the heavens like a tent.
Above the rains You build Your dwelling.
You make the clouds Your chariot,
You walk on the wings of the wind.

You make the winds Your messengers
and flashing fire Your servants.
You founded the earth on its base,
to stand firm from age to age.

You make springs gush forth in the valleys:
they flow in between the hills.

They give drink to all the beasts of the field;
the wild-asses quench their thirst.

On their banks dwell the birds of heaven;
from the branches they sing their song.
Glory be ...

Canticle of the Sun

Antiphon 2: Let all creation praise the Lord

The Canticle of the Sun Most High,
all-powerful, good Lord, Yours are the praises, the glory, the honor, and all blessings. To You alone, Most High, do they belong, and no man is worthy to mention Your name.

Praised be You, my Lord, with all your creatures; especially Brother Sun, who is the day, and through whom You give us light. And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendor, and bears a likeness to You, Most High One.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars; in heaven You formed them clear and precious and beautiful. Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Wind, and through the air, cloudy and serene, and every kind of weather through which You give sustenance to Your creatures.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Water, which is very useful and humble and precious and chaste. Praised be You, my Lord, through Brother Fire, through whom You light the night; and he is beautiful and playful and robust and strong.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Mother Earth, who sustains us and governs us and who produces varied fruits with colored flowers and herbs.

Praised be You, my Lord, through those who give pardon for Your love, and bear infirmity and tribulation. Blessed are those who endure in peace for by You, Most High, they shall be crowned.

Praised be You, my Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death, from whom no living man can escape. Woe to those who die in mortal sin. Blessed are those whom death will find in Your most holy will, for the second death shall do them no harm. Praise and

bless my Lord, and give Him thanks, and serve Him with great humility. Amen.

Glory be...

CANTICLE: Colossians 1:12-20

Antiphon 3: In Christ all things were created, and through Him all things are reconciled to God.

Let us give thanks to God our Father, who has made us worthy to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

He rescued us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of His beloved Son.

Through Him we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

For in Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible.

All were created through Him; all were created for Him.

He is before all else that is.

In Him everything continues in being.

It is He who is head of the body, the Church;

He who is the beginning, the firstborn of the dead, so that primacy may be His in everything.

It pleased God to make absolute fullness reside in Him

and, by means of Him, to reconcile everything in His person,

both on earth and in the heavens,

making peace through the blood of His cross. *Glory be...*

READING: Romans 8:19–21

Creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the glorious freedom of the children of God. *The word of the Lord.*

SHORT RESPONSORY

R. The heavens proclaim the glory of God, alleluia, alleluia.

V. The skies display His handiwork.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

V. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

R. The heavens proclaim the glory of God, alleluia, alleluia.

MAGNIFICAT OF CREATION

Antiphon: Living our vocation our vocation to be protectors of God's creation is essential to a life of virtue.

(Pope Francis 2013)

My soul magnifies the Creator,
and my spirit rejoices in the God of life,
for God has poured out beauty upon
the earth, and clothed it in splendor
and light.

From the depths of oceans to the peaks
of mountains, from desert sands to lush
green forests, all creation sings praise
to the Holy One.

The sun and moon proclaim your glory,
the stars dance in joy before you.
Every bird in the sky, every fish in the
sea, every creeping thing, every
blooming flower - all reveal your
goodness and wisdom.

You lift up the lowly creature
and crown even the smallest life with

your care.

You feed the sparrows and water the
grass, how much more do you love
your people?

You scatter the arrogance of human
pride, and call us to live in harmony
with Earth, to walk humbly, love
tenderly, and serve all life with justice.

You remember your covenant of love,
your promise to all generations.
Through wind and fire, seed and soil,
your mercy endures forever.

Glory be to you, Source of All,
from before the beginning to beyond
the end.
Amen.



INTERCESSIONS

Let us praise God, the Creator of all things, and offer
our prayer in thanksgiving for ten years of reflection and



action inspired by Laudato Si'.

— Lord of life, renew the face of the earth.

For the Pope and all shepherds of the Church,

that they continue to proclaim the Gospel of Creation with courage and clarity.

— Lord of life, renew the face of the earth.

For those who work to safeguard the environment,

that their efforts be blessed with wisdom, perseverance, and fruitfulness.

— Lord of life, renew the face of the earth.

For all those who promote ecological conversion and are gone to eternity, especially

pope Francis of blessed memory, that their good works go with them.

---Lord of life, renew the face of the Earth.

For the poor and vulnerable who suffer the most from ecological harm,

that justice and compassion prevail.

— Lord of life, renew the face of the earth.

For our hearts to be converted to simplicity, gratitude, and ecological responsibility,

that we may become faithful stewards of creation.

— Lord of life, renew the face of the earth.

For future generations,

that they may inherit a planet filled with beauty and life.

— Lord of life, renew the face of the earth.

Our Father...

CONCLUDING PRAYER:

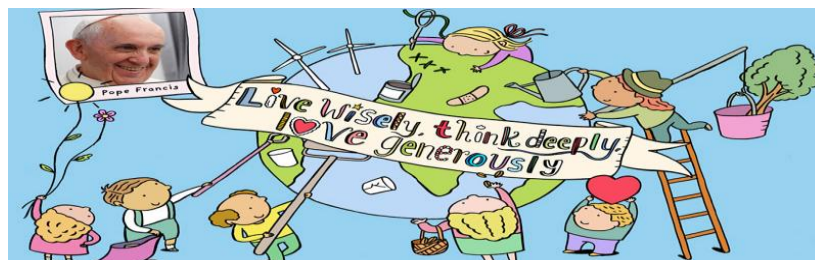
God of all creation,

You looked upon all that You made and saw that it was very good. You call us to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. On this tenth anniversary of Laudato Si', deepen our love for Your handiwork,

strengthen our resolve to protect our common home,

and guide us in building a world of justice, peace, and sustainability,

through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Prepared by Sisters Francisca & Beatrice for Shalom Branch Africa