

WORSHIP RESOURCES

Prayers

Opening Prayer

Let us be aware of the source of being
That is common to us all
And to all living creatures.

Silence

Let us be filled with the presence of the great compassion
Towards ourselves and towards all living beings.

Silence

Realising that we are all nourished
From the same source of life,
May we so live that others be not deprived
Of air, food, water, shelter, or the chance to live.

Silence

The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

Praise

How wonderful, O Lord, are the works of your hands! The heavens declare your glory; the arch of sky displays your handiwork. In your love you have given us the power to behold the beauty of your world robed in all its splendour.

The sun and the stars, the valleys and hills, the rivers and lakes all disclose your presence. The roaring breakers of the seas tell of your awesome might; the breasts of the field and the birds of the air speak of your wondrous will.

In your goodness you have made us able to hear the music of the world. You are in our midst. A divine voice sings through all creation.

Traditional Jewish prayer

Praise

I take a sip of simple water and with that the story of life.
Its molecules have been in the rain forest,
have lived in quantum compounds,
have waved in sea anemones,
have been the water of baptisms,
have lived in our mothers
and are now on their ways to ever new formations.

**With all living things we praise you, Lord Creator
You are the well of salvation.**

Praise

Hail Mother, who art the earth,
Hallowed be thy soil, rocks and flora
That nourish and support all life.
Blessed be thy wind that gives us breath
And thy waters that quench, bathe and refresh
All living things.
Holy Earth – as one with God – we praise your majesty,
grace and wonder.

Bill Faherty

Collects

Creator God
you made all things
and all you made was very good.
Show us how to respect
the fragile balance of life.
Guide by your wisdom those who have power
to care for or destroy the environment,
that by the decisions they make
life may be cherished
and a good and fruitful earth
be preserved for future generations;
through Jesus Christ our Lord

Amen.

Heavenly Father,
thank you for the life you gave us,
the people you gave us to share our lives with,
and the earth we live on which sustain us.
Help us discover that we are humans, living for each other, not against other.
Help us to live up to our responsibilities for your creation.

Amen.

Blessed are you, Sovereign God,
our light and our salvation,

to you be glory and praise for ever.
In the beginning you laid the foundation of the earth,
and the heavens are the work of your hands.
To dispel the darkness of our night,
you sent forth your Son,
the first-born of all creation.
He is our Christ, the light of the world, and Him we acclaim,
as all creation sings to you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God for ever.

Almighty God, creator of all things,
every plant, every rock, every grain of sand proclaims your glory.
May we, stewards of this magnificent Earth,
learn to care for our blue-green home,
and all creatures who share it,
with the same sensitivity,
the same mercy,
the same generosity,
the same love you have shown to us
through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Lord you are the giver of all good things
Sun and rain
Day and night
Justice and righteousness
Food to sustain
Seed to sow
Peace to the old
Energy to the young
Hope to the forgotten
Your love to the world
Turn our taking into giving
In the Spirit of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord

Amen.

Walter Brueggeman

Creator God, how deep are your designs!
You made a living earth, cloud, rain and wind,
And charged us with their care.
We confess that the way we live today
Is changing the climate, the seas and the balance of life,
Dispossessing the poor and future generations.
Build our lives into an Ark for all creation,
And, as you promised Noah never to repeat the flood,
So make us heralds of a new rainbow covenant:
Choosing life for all that is at risk –
For creation, neighbours near and far,
Our children and ourselves.

Amen.

Operation Noah

God of all Creation, Father of Humankind, and Spirit of Truth,
We thank you for the bountiful world
you have entrusted into our keeping.
The land and sea and all contained within our planet
that sustains, supports and refreshes us.
Forgive our misuse of nature's precious resources,
and help us to be mindful of those whose lives are more at risk
from our greed or negligence.
Lead us by your Spirit into a right use of all your gifts,
That all may have sufficient
and we may be thankful stewards of your creation.
This we ask through our Saviour and Advocate.
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

St Martin-in-the-Fields

Collect – Water

We thank you for the gift of water
that sustains us and other creatures who thirst for life.
Grant us courage and hope in you,
that justice will flow like water
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.
Refresh us by your Holy Spirit
so that we may become a sign of reconciliation
and peace throughout the earth.

Amen.

Collect – Soil

Creator God,
who lifted up the mountains and formed the dry land,
whose hands have shaped us out of the dust of the earth,
who has formed the soils and made this earth
a place of beauty and abundance:
We give you thanks for the gift of soil.
Create in us such a sense of wonder and delight
in this and all your gifts,
that we might receive them with gratitude,
care for them with love,
and generously share them with all your creatures,
to the honour and glory of your holy name.

Amen.

Communion preface

Your spirit covered the face of the deep; your voice called light forth from darkness; your words fixed the stars, carved the earth, filled the seas and fashioned creatures of every kind; your breath gave life to woman and man, bearers of your own image. And, though humanity turned from you, exposing your Creation to decay, destruction and death, you remained

faithful, gathering a people together, delivering them to the land of promise, guiding them firmly, but graciously, by the yoke of your Commandments.

In the fullness of time, you brought Salvation to them, and to all people, a new Creation, through the Incarnation of your son, Jesus. By his blessed life, death and resurrection, you fully revealed yourself and opened the way of your eternal Kingdom.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in Heaven, Creator of the Universe and all Life on Earth

Grant that we recognise the gifts you have given us and keep your name holy always in our hearts and in our communities.

Let your Kingdom grow here on Earth as we do your will; as we love and respect your Creation, your truth and all your people.

Let us 'act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with you, our God'.

We ask you for our daily bread; for all our needs.

Move us to share with the millions who starve, and have less that they need for a dignified human life.

Forgive us for blindness, for willful ignorance, for the selfishness and greed that lead us to exploit the Earth's resources for our luxury and comfort.

Forgive us for thus degrading agricultural land, contaminating land and water supplies.

Forgive us for our contribution towards global warming and climate chaos that are further endangering the lives of the poorest people and places on Earth.

Help us to understand and forgive people who feel violence is the only effective method of resolving problems of greed, abuse or injustice.

Lead us, Lord, to see through the temptations of the world to 'have it all', cost what it may to those already in the greatest need.

Deliver us from blindness and hardened hearts, from excuses, and lack of understanding others' suffering and the causes for hatred that are all around us.

The Kingdom, the Power and the Glory are yours, Almighty Creator;

Give us the grace to reflect your Kingdom everyday of our lives in this world.

Amen.

Monica Evans

Lord's Prayer Reflection

Heavenly and earthly God,
may we live our lives according to your reign of peace through justice:

- ⌚ that there may be food and nourishment for all
- ⌚ that we eradicate the chains of debt from others and from ourselves
- ⌚ that we distribute the resources of life fairly and sustainably
- ⌚ and that we reject evil, being not tempted by status or greed,

but remembering that ultimately all power and energy are yours, now and forever.

Amen.

Martyn Goss

Final Prayers

Lord of all, as with joy we have offered thanksgiving
for your love shown in creation,
move our hearts to be generous and wise stewards
of the good things we enjoy,
through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

May God who clothes the lilies
and feeds the birds of the sky,
who multiplied loaves and fishes
and changed water into wine,
feed us and change us
to reflect the glory of you, our Creator,
in this world and the next.

Amen.