

Care of the Earth

Prayer of Confession:

When You created our world, You were so pleased that You said that it was good.

You so loved the world that you gave Your Son. Yet we have not love this our garden of Eden.

We make the ground, the air and water toxic and the earth unfit for human habitation.

Forgive us for the desecration of something so sacred to You. We have been unfaithful stewards of not only the ground, but also all that dwells upon it, flies above it, or swims in the seas. We will change our ways. We want to have life, we will follow Your way, and acknowledge Your truth so that we might not perish. Amen.

If we repent of our sins, Christ is faithful and just to forgive our sins and to cleans us from all unrighteousness. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving: "Care of the Earth"

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord

It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet and right and our bounden duty

that we should at all time and places

acknowledge that you are our Lord,

the Creator of the Universe which includes the earth,

The very ground of our being,

The One who breathed the breath of life into our lives,

The only source of Living Water that can quench the thirsting of our souls.

You created a beautiful world for us to live in.

You filled it with the creatures of Your delight.

We came in every shape and size, of many brilliant colors.

We were all interconnected, interdependent, each creature with a divine calling to fulfill.

We all were to bring forth Your praise,

the many forms of plants, insects, birds, animals, fish and us.

Into our care You entrusted everybody and everything.

But we have failed.

Through our neglect their voices are going silent.

Because of our greed we have hushed their praises.

You deserve more.

You deserve better.

You deserve every creature on earth to sing Your praise,
You deserve to hear their voices with ours,
with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
lauding and magnifying Your glorious name,
evermore praising You and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Glory be Yours, O Lord most high.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Amen.**

Almighty God,
in Your tender mercy You gave us Your Son Jesus Christ:
Your restorer of Your light to our dismal sin crazed world.
Jesus asked us to think about the birds of the air and the care You want them to have.
Jesus asked us to consider the wild flowers and the concern You want shown to them.
You sent Jesus to calm the storms we have caused.
You sent Jesus to heal the diseases we have brought upon the earth.
You sent Jesus to remind us to live simply, that we need nothing for the journey but You.
You sent Jesus to die to bring an end to our killing,
the one sacrifice for all: full, perfect, and sufficient.

Hear us, O merciful Creator,
We most humbly ask You;
bless and sanctify with Your Word and Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine,
that we receiving them
according to Christ's holy institution,
remembering his passion, death and resurrection,
may share in the divine nature through him.

Who, on the night of his betrayal, took bread;
and when Christ had given thanks,
broke it, and gave it to all, saying,
"Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you:
do this in remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup;
and when he had given thanks, he gave it to all, saying,
"Drink, for this is my blood of the New Covenant,
which I shed for you and for many, forgiving your sins;
do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

**O magnificent Creator,
we, Your humble servants,
desire Your mercy in accepting our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving;
that by the merits and death of Jesus and through our faith in His blood,
we and your whole creation may obtain forgiveness of our sins,
and all the benefits of Christ's passion.**

**We offer and present to You,
ourselves, our minds, souls, and bodies,
to be a reasonable, holy, and willing sacrifice.
We ask that all who are partakers of this Holy Communion
may be filled with Your grace and heavenly benediction.
And although we are unworthy,
through our many sins against creation,
to offer You anything, yet we ask you
to accept our promise to change our behavior,
not because we have done such a great job in the past,
but pardoning our offenses;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
by whom, and with whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honor and glory are Yours alone,
Creator of the Universe, time without end. Amen.**

(Breaking of Bread)

**We know we have no right to be accepted at Your table,
Creator God,
and we know we cannot trust in our own righteousness,
but only in the many and great mercies
we have experienced through our relationship with Jesus Christ.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs that fall from Your table.
But You personify Love,
and it is Your very nature to always bestow mercy.
Shoe that mercy now so that we might share in the privilege of this sacrament of Jesus
Christ that we might live in Your world differently, that we may become more like Christ,
and may be one with Christ and Christ with us. Amen.**

**O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace**

(Giving of the Bread and Cup)