

Earth Day Prayers by the Rev. David Bowring

Collect

Gracious God, Creator of all, visible and invisible; enlighten us, whom you have made stewards of this planet earth, to care for and share its resources, that nourished in body and soul, we may lift our hearts and voices and join the chorus of creation, praising your name; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Offertory

Source of all, we give you back a portion of the generous gifts of the earth. Grant that these tokens of love and joy may open our hearts and minds to the fullness of your grace and favour. Through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

After Communion

Eternal God, You have fed us with this foretaste of the banquet of heaven, hasten the day when our service is joined with the work of all creation in your eternal harmony. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Prayers of the People

Creator, Sustainer and Redeemer, you have created the universe to receive and return your love.
Enfold the earth in your grace and compassion.

Source of all beauty, visible and invisible,
We thank you for the wonder of soft snow, the glory of sunrises, the remarkableness of layers in rocks and sand, and the gentleness of rustling leaves.

Source of order and power, you arrange the orbits of planets, the circling of the seasons and the rhythm of breathing in and breathing out.
We thank you for the patterns of nature by which we live, understand the past, and anticipate the future.

Creator of mind and body, who made us to enjoy and enrich the gifts of nature
Forgive us the discords of overuse, ugliness of misuse, and stench of careless use.

Ruler of all, you made the human being to care for and manage this planet as your deputy.
Forgive us our failures in that task: the pollution of the air, the contamination of water, the poisoning of soil, the waste of energy.

God who so loved the cosmos that your Son and Word entered into its life and suffered its death
Grant us to die to past wrongs done to this planet and rise to the challenges of life today and into the future.

Creator of light and darkness, this planet earth brings fair weather and foul, rich soil and deserts, warm days and arctic cold, rain and drought
Teach us so to live in the uncertainties of this world, that we remain anchored in your dependable love.

Source and Goal of Creation, the Beginning and End of this and all planets
Lead us to act in the natural creation as those who seek the New Creation where all things sing your praises, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.