

Suggested Prayers for Green Energy Day

We give you thanks, most gracious God, for the beauty of earth and sky and sea; for the richness of mountains, plains and rivers; for the songs of birds and the loveliness of flowers. We praise you for these good gifts, and pray that we may safeguard them for our posterity. Grant that we may continue to grow in our grateful participation in your abundant creation, to the honor and glory of your name, now and forever. Amen. *Book of Common Prayer (BCP), 1979, p. 840*

Almighty God, in giving us dominion over things on earth, you made us fellow workers in your creation. Give us wisdom and reverence so to use the resources of nature, that no one and no creature may suffer from our abuse of them, and that generations yet to come may continue to praise you for your bounty. Amen. *BCP, 1979, p. 827*

O merciful Creator, whose hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living Creature: make us, we beseech you, ever thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your bounty; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. *BCP, 1979, p 208*

O our Mother the Earth, blessed is your name.

Blessed are your fields and forests, your rocks and mountains, your grasses and trees and flowers, and every green and growing thing.

Blessed are your streams and lakes and rivers, the oceans where our life began, and all your waters that sustain our bodies and refresh our souls.

Blessed is the air we breathe, your atmosphere that surrounds us and binds us to every living thing.

Blessed are all creatures who walk along your surface or swim in your waters or fly through your air, for they are all our relatives.

Blessed are all people who share this planet, for we are all one family and the same spirit moves through us all.

Blessed is the sun, our day star, bringer of morning and the heat of summer, giver of light and life.

Blessed is the moon, our night lamp, ruler of the tides, protector of all women, and guardian of our dreams.

Blessed are the stars and planets, the time-keepers, who fill our nights with beauty and our hearts with awe.

O Great Spirit whose voice we hear in the wind and whose face we see in the morning sun, blessed is your name.

Help us to remember that you are everywhere, and teach us the way of peace.
Helen Weaver (from Earth Prayers, p. 209)

A Blessing: Earth, air, fire and water have combined to make this food. Numberless things have died and labored that we may eat. May we be nourished that we may nourish life. Amen. *Earth Prayers, p. 345*

O God, enlarge within us the sense of fellowship with all living things, our brothers, the animals, to whom thou gavest the earth as their home in common with us.
We remember with shame that in the past we have exercised the high dominion of man with ruthless cruelty, so that the voice of the earth, which should have gone up to thee in song, has been a groan of travail.
May we realize that they live not for us alone but for themselves and for thee and that they love the sweetness of life.
St. Basil the Great (c. 330-379)

Master of the Universe, grant me the ability to be alone:
May it be my custom to go outdoors each day, among the trees and grasses, among all growing things, there to be alone and enter into prayer.
There may I express all that is in my heart, talking with You, to Whom I belong.
And may all grasses, trees and plants awake at my coming.
Send the power of their life into my prayer, making whole my heart and my speech through the life and spirit of growing things.
Rabbi Nachman

Apprehend God in all things,
for God is in all things.
Every single creature is full of God
and is a book about God.
Every creature is a word of God.
If I spent enough time with the tiniest creature-
even a caterpillar-
I would never have to prepare a sermon. So full of God
is every creature.
Meister Eckhart

Prayer of Intercession based on Colossians 1:15-20

O Christ, your cross speaks both to us and to our world.
In your dying for us you accepted the pain and hurt
Of the whole of creation.
The arms of your cross stretch out across the
Broken world in reconciliation.
You have made peace with us,
Help us to make peace with you by sharing in your
Reconciliation work.

May we recognize your spirit disturbing and
Challenging us to care for creation and for the
Poor who must feel the effects of its abuse.
O Christ, the whole of creation groans,
Set us free and make us whole.

Meister Eckhart

Canticle of the Sun

Most High, omnipotent, good Lord,
All praise, glory, honor, and blessing are yours.
To you alone, Most High, do they belong,
And no man is worthy to pronounce your name.
Be praised, my Lord, with all your creatures,
Especially Sir Brother Sun,
Who brings the day, and you give light to us through him.
How handsome he is, how radiant, with great splendor!
Of you, Most High, he bears the likeness.
Be praised, my Lord, for Sister Moon and the Stars.
In heaven you have formed them, bright, and precious, and beautiful.
Be praised, my Lord, for Brother Wind,
And for Air, for Cloud, and Clear, and all weather,
By which you give your creatures nourishment.
Be praised, my Lord, for Sister Water,
She is very useful, and humble, and precious, and pure.
Be praised, my Lord, for Brother Fire,
By whom you light up the night.
How handsome he is, how happy, how powerful and strong!
Be praised, my Lord, for our Sister, Mother Earth.
Who nourishes and governs us,
And produces various fruits with many-colored flowers and herbs.
Praise and bless the Lord,
And give thanks and serve him with great humility.

St. Francis of Assisi

Blessed are you, strong and faithful God.
All your works, the height and the depth,
echo the silent music of your praise.
In the beginning your Word summoned light;
night withdrew, and creation dawned.
As ages passed unseen,
waters gathered on the face of the earth
and life appeared.
When the times had at last grown full
and the earth had ripened in abundance,

you created in your own image humankind,
the crown of all creation.
You gave us breath and speech,
that all the living
might find a voice to sing your praise.
so now, with all the powers of heaven and earth,
we chant the ageless hymn to your glory . . .

Preface by the International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL)

We are not self-starters

Speaking, acting, life-giving God
the one with the only verbs that can heal and rescue,

We come petitioning one more time,
Seeking your majestic address to us,
asking your powerful action among us,
waiting for your new life toward us.

Your creation teems with bondaged folk
who have not enough for life,
not enough bread, not enough clothes,
not enough houses, not enough freedom,
not enough dignity, not enough hope.

Your creation teems with bondaged creatures,
great valleys become dumps,
great oceans become dumped pollution,
fish wrapped in dumped oil,
fields at a loss for dumped chemicals.

So we pray for creation, that has become a dump,
and for all your people
who have been dumped,
and dumped upon.

Renew your passion for life,
Work your wonders for newness,
Speak your word and let us begin again.

In your powerful presence, we resolve to do our proper
work,

But we are not self-starters.

We wait on you to act, in order that we may act.

Show yourself in ways that give us courage and energy and freedom,
that we may care for our neighbors,
love your creation,
praise your name.

We pray in the savaged power of Jesus,
who cared and loved and praised.

Amen.

Walter Brueggemann (from Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth)