

Leader:

For the good earth which God has given us,
And for the wisdom and will to conserve it, we pray.

All:

That we seek to know and understand the earth,
Not to have power over it, but to love it unceasingly.
That, in order to love the earth more generously,
We come to know her more intimately.

Lord, help us to pay attention,
To be receptive to the multitude of your works –
Each organism, a creature of God;
Each element of creation good and admirable in itself –
The harmonious ensemble of organisms
Existing in a defined space and functioning as a system.

Help us to awaken the ability to see and feel
The magnificence of creation and our part in it,
Lest we end up destroying both ourselves
And the created order to which we belong.

We pray that reasonable persons of good will,
From every race, religion and culture,
Will be able to see more clearly
That the balance of nature is fragile.

May we join in good will,
In gratitude for our common humanity,
To care for this earth
And to help make the joy of the Gospel more visible.

May our children, and our children's children,
And all generations live in peace and harmony



A Prayer for Earth Day



In an environment that allows them to flourish –
Even to the end of time.

All elements, all creatures, great and small,
May they be protected, nurtured and treasured.

Reader:

Look, I am doing something new!
Now it springs forth—can't you see it?
I'm making a road in the desert
And setting rivers to flow in the wasteland.
(*Isaiah 43:18-19*)

Reader:

"This landscape is a living, breathing part of me. I consider it something to protect, like I would my own body." (Taylor Lee Kirkland, *Mountain Memories: Interview with Judy Bond*)

Reader:

"The universe as a whole, in all its manifold relationships, shows forth the inexhaustible riches of God. ... Everything is connected." (Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*, 86, 91)

All:

For the good earth which God has given us,
And for the wisdom and will to conserve it,
We pray.
Amen.