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CREATION CARE



Station 1 Prayer:

Father God, thank you for all the ways your creation teaches us about you. We praise you for your love, beauty, creativity, and power we see in every aspect of the natural world.

“By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God’s command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.” (Hebrews 11:3)

Children’s Prayer – Dear God, everything we see in your beautiful world – the sky, the trees, the flowers, the birds - teaches us how loving and beautiful you are!

Station 2 Prayer:

Oh Lord, Our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! (Ps 8:1)

We praise you for the amazing diversity of your creation, all woven together in a marvelous web of life, from the smallest of the billions of microorganisms that make our soil healthy - to the largest of the magnificent creatures that swim in our oceans.

Children’s Prayer – Dear God, you make all of nature fit together perfectly. From the smallest insect to the largest whale that swims in the oceans, each creature is important!

Station 3 Prayer:

Our Father, everything around us declares your glory:

“But ask the beasts, and they will teach you; the birds of the heavens, and they will tell you; or the bushes of the earth, and they will teach you; and the fish of the sea will declare to you. Who among all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In his hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of all mankind.” (Job 12:7 – 10)

Children’s Prayer – Dear God, what a beautiful universe you have made for us– sun, moon, and stars, oceans, forests, mountains, and rivers. You hold everything together in your hands!

Station 4 Prayer:

Creator God, We, your people, ask for your forgiveness for the ways, knowingly and unknowingly, we have harmed your beautiful gift of creation. Have mercy on us and give us the will and the strength to become earth’s caretakers again.

“The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to tend it and watch over it.” (Genesis 1:15 NLT)

Children’s Prayer – Dear God, we are sad when we see trash and plastic by our roads and in our neighborhoods. We are sorry that we sometimes don’t take good care of your Earth.

Station 5 Prayer:

Creator and Sustainer of the Universe, you have placed us in a position of responsibility to care for our planet. Forgive us for our failure to do so. Open our eyes to the individual ways we can make a difference in our homes, our church, and in our places of work.

“God spoke: “Let us make human beings in our image, make them reflection our nature so they can be responsible for the fish in the sea, the birds in the air, the cattle and, yes, Earth itself. (Genesis 1. 26, The Message)

Children’s Prayer – Dear God, because we are your children, you will help us be responsible for your Earth and all the creatures that live on it.

Station 6 Prayer:

God of Encouragement, help us to throw off complacency and remain steadfast in our effort to affect change: to vote, to speak up, to work and to pray for a healthy and just world.

“Now may the God of endurance and encouragement give you to be of the same mind with one another, according to Christ Jesus (Romans 15:5)

Children’s Prayer – Dear God, remind us that we can always pray for a fair and healthy world, and you will hear us.

Station 7 Prayer:

God of Hope, may all of our efforts to protect your creation be grounded in our love for you, in love of our neighbors, in love for our planet, and in love for our children, that the many generations to come will enjoy a safe and secure future.

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13)

Children’s Prayer – Dear God, help us to love you, love other people, and love your beautiful Earth!

Praying the Labyrinth

Praying a labyrinth is a form of contemplative prayer, a slow, and meditative walk, pausing and praying each time there is a turn or change of direction. Our prayer for creation is inspired by Pope Francis' Laudate Deum (Praise God).

At the Entrance

1. We praise you, O God, Creator of all things.
2. Your mysteries unfold in a leaf, a mountain, a dewdrop, and in a poor person's face.
3. Jesus, you Son, taught us to wonder -
4. As he made his way throughout the land, contemplating the beauty of creation.
5. We pray, O God, that you may stir in us -
6. A reverent awareness of our invisible link with the entire created world.
7. We pray for humility -
8. To remember that we, too, are created and are not creation's masters.
9. We pray for compassion -
10. For open eyes and hearts to welcome those forced to flee from their homes due to rising sea levels and drought.
11. We pray for repentance -
12. So that our thirst for power and domination may be transformed into service.
13. We pray for simplicity -
14. And the will to turn from our greed which impacts vulnerable people everywhere.
15. We pray for cultural conversion -
16. That we may simplify our lifestyles, reduce pollution and waste, and exercise prudence in our decision-making.
17. We pray for policy changes -
18. That as a nation and world we may work together to reverse the course of climate change.
19. Our hearts ach as we ponder:
20. "The world sings of an infinite Love: how can we fail to care for it?"
21. We praise you, O God,
22. Confident that you work in our hearts and through our actions, so that we may better care for our common home.

At the exit: Amen