

**Prayer for the Healing of the Earth**

Friday, September 24, 2021

***Preparation for Worship***

You are invited to bring a piece of nature with you to worship as we will be doing Holden's For the Healing of Creation and we would like our worship spaces, wherever they are, to be adorned with God's beautiful nature. Bring a leaf, a twig, a flower, or what you see fit. We invite you to use your judgement in selecting something however; please do not kill a living thing to bring it into the worship space.

Worshippers participating via Zoom are invited to bring a candle to their worship space as well. On campus worshippers are invited to place their item from nature on the cross in the worship space.

**Gathering Song**      *For the Fruit of All Creation*      ELW #679

**Litany**      *For the Healing of Creation*      SP #12

*The leader names those for whom prayers are made.*

*The assembly responds: God, renew.*

*After each verse, the leader calls and the assembly responds:*

*For the healing of creation, we pray to you, O God.*

**Kyrie**      *Kyrie Eleison*      SP #21

Kyrie - e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son.

Kyrie - e - le - i - son, e - le - i - son, e - le - i - son.

**Invitation to the Cross**

O Lord, Hear My Prayer      ELW #751  
Lord, Listen to your Children Praying      ELW #752

**Closing Prayer  
Sending**

Portions of the liturgy from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2012 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. *For the Healing of Creation*, Text: Susan Briehl, © 2009 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #21842.

*Kyrie Eleison* reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-703428. All rights reserved.

## Friday Prayers

### Prayer for the Healing of the Earth

Service Order

Loehe Chapel

#### Gathering

L1 .

*(leaders stand)*

We gather this morning around the cross...

And elements of creation...

This morning's service is a service  
for the healing of *the earth*.

We come to pray for the world  
that God creates, sustains, and loves.

We come to hear God's promise  
to make all things new in Jesus Christ.

There will be a time during our prayers  
to come forward.

You may stand or kneel...

or sit to pray...

light a candle and leave it  
at any of these stations...

Stay as long as you like.

The Spirit of God now gathers us  
in song, prayer, and Word...

Here, we belong,  
together.

*(gesture to stand)*

*We invite you to rise in body or spirit...*

Our gathering hymn is Hymn #824

L2 .

Let us pray. *(pause)*

Blessed are you, O God,  
Creator of the universe.  
You are gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and full of love.  
Your compassion fills your whole creation.  
With all your creatures,  
we sing your praise  
and look to you for life,  
through Jesus Christ,  
in whom you make all things new,  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

*(gesture to sit)*

*You may be seated...*

*Silence is kept.*

## Word

C1 . Kyrie Eleison (SP 21)

*The cantor sings the Kyrie, inviting the assembly to join as indicated.  
Light accompaniment continues under the readings; the assembly is led in the  
singing of each refrain.*

L1 *(Leader to the pulpit)*

God brings a charge against the people who live in the land.

A reading from Hosea. *(pause)*

There is no faithfulness or loyalty,  
and no knowledge of God in the land.

Swearing, lying, and murder,  
and stealing and adultery break out;  
bloodshed follows bloodshed.

Therefore the land mourns;  
and all who live in it languish;  
together with the wild animals  
and the birds of the air,  
even the fish of the sea are perishing.

C1 . Refrain: Kyrie Eleison (SP 21)

L2

The word of the Lord came to Jeremiah concerning a drought.  
A reading from Jeremiah. (pause)

Judah mourns,  
and her gates languish;  
they lie in gloom on the ground,  
and the cry of Jerusalem goes up.

Her nobles send their servants for water;  
they come to the cisterns,  
they find no water,  
they return with their vessels empty.  
They are ashamed and dismayed  
and cover their heads,  
because the ground is cracked.

Because there has been no rain on the land.  
the farmers are dismayed;  
they cover their heads.

Even the doe in the field forsakes her newborn fawn  
because there is no grass.

C1 .

*Refrain: Kyrie Eleison (SP 21)*

L2

A reading from Romans. (pause)

We know that the whole creation  
has been groaning in labor pains until now;  
and not only creation,  
but we ourselves,  
who have the first fruits of the Spirit,  
groan inwardly while we wait for adoption,  
the redemption of our bodies.

C1 .

*Refrain: Kyrie Eleison (SP 21)*

Silence is kept. (amount of time is like us saying lords prayer in our head)

L1

(leaders remain seated)  
Let us pray. (pause)

Look upon us with mercy, O God,

forgive our unfaithfulness,  
our failure to respond to need and suffering,  
our wasteful consumption and pollution of your creation,  
and our negligence in tending and keeping what you have made.  
Send forth your Spirit,  
renew the face of the earth,  
and restore in us the image of your love,  
Jesus Christ,  
in whose name we pray.  
**Amen.**

### Litany for the Healing of the Earth

L2

*(leaders remain seated)*

Let us name before God,  
the wonders of creation...  
pleading for their protection, healing, and renewal  
through the life-giving power of the Spirit.

C1 & C2

*Litany: For the Healing of Creation (SP 12)*

*The cantor begins by singing through one verse, simply singling "God, renew,"  
and the people respond, "God, renew."*

*The cantor then sings out parts of creation (based on Psalm 104), and the  
people respond "God, renew."*

*After several verses, the refrain "For the healing of creation, we pray to you,  
O God" is sung as a call-and-response.*

*Silence is kept after the Litany (same length of time).*

### Invitation to the Cross

L1

*(leaders stand)*

Soon we will sing.  
As the singing begins,  
come forward as you are drawn.

You're invited to  
Stand, kneel, or sit as you pray.  
Leave a candle here if you wish.

Stay as long as you like.

For those joining us on Zoom,  
You're invited to light a candle in your own space,  
Reflecting on the elements of creation that you have either brought into  
your space, or those that occupy space in your mind and heart.

You who remain seated,  
you're invited to join us  
in silence and song.

*(leaders model the lighting of candles, prayer)*

C1

Hymn #870 For the Beauty of the Earth *(contemplatively)*

Hymn #438 My Lord, What a Morning

Hymn #752 Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

*(instrumental as needed following these)*

**Silence is kept after the music fades. (same length of time)**

## Closing Prayer

L2

*(leaders stand & gesture others to stand)*

We invite you to rise in body or spirit...

Gathering our many prayers into one,  
let us pray. *(pause)*

You open wide your hand, O God,  
and satisfy the desire of every living thing.  
You draw near to those who call upon you,  
crying out from their hearts.

We pray today in thanksgiving for the life of Natascha's father. Please be  
with Natascha and her family during this time of grief.

Hear our cries, receive our prayers,  
and fill us with your blessing,  
until needy no longer,  
your whole creation sings your praise,  
through your Son,  
Jesus Christ,  
in whom you make all things new.

**Amen.**

## **Sending**

**L2**

God all mighty, God most merciful  
bless us, keep us, and grant us peace.  
**Amen.**

**L1**

Go in peace, sharing signs of peace.