

MORNING PRAISE

ALTERNATE READINGS, INTERCESSIONS, & CLOSING PRAYER

APRIL 22, 2019

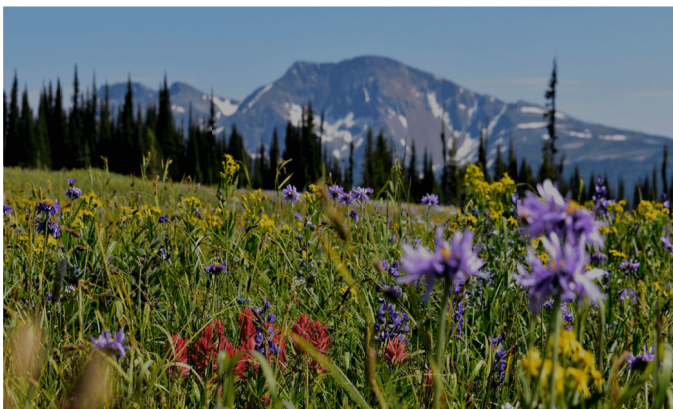
Reading One

A reading from the Book of Job,
Job 12:7-10 (NRSVCE)

“But ask the animals, and they will teach you; the birds of the air, and they will tell you; ask the plants 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 God has done this?

In God’s hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of every human being.



Reading Two

A passage from *New Seeds of Contemplation* by Thomas Merton

A tree gives glory to God by being a tree. For in being what God means it to be it is obeying Him. It “consents,” so to speak, to God’s creative love. It is expressing an idea which is in God and which is not distinct from the essence of God, and therefore the tree imitates God by being a tree.

The more a tree is like itself the more it is like God. If it tried to be something else which it was never intended to be, it would be less like God and therefore would give God less glory. ...

This particular tree will give glory to God by spreading out its roots into the earth and raising its branches into the light in a way that no other tree before or after it ever did or will do. ...

Each particular being, in its individuality, its concrete nature, with all its own characteristics and its private qualities and its own inviolable identity, gives glory to God by being precisely what God wants it to be here and now, in the circumstances ordained for it by God’s love and God’s infinite Art. ...But what about you? What about me? ...

Intercessions

We pray in gratitude for the beauty of the Earth, the diversity of God's creatures, and the well-being of all God's people.

God of Creation, hear us.

We pray for all those working to preserve natural environments: conservationists, foresters, gardeners and all activists and advocates who work with policy makers for change.

God of Creation, hear us.

We pray that God opens our eyes to our connectedness with creation, that we may seek ways to protect and promote the connection of all God's created order.


God of Creation, hear us.

Closing Prayer

God of All Creatures, renew in us a spirit of connection and love for creation as it is threatened by our greed, apathy and mindless consumption. Move us to act in such a way that we may be agents in the Earth's renewal. Make us ever mindful that we, too, are your creatures, and in you we find life, breath and being. Amen.






*But ask the animals, and they will explain to you; 
the birds of the air, and they will tell you;
ask the plants 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 God has done this?
In God's hand is the life of every living thing
and the breath of every human being.*

— JOB 12:7-10 (NRSVCE)



*But ask the animals, and they will explain to you; 
the birds of the air, and they will tell you;
ask the plants 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 God has done this?
In God's hand is the life of every living thing
and the breath of every human being.*

— JOB 12:7-10 (NRSVCE)

God of Creation, we are grateful for the gift of creation. The creatures of the Earth witness to your play and creativity. The abundance of the Earth witnesses to your ongoing care and provision. The delicate systems of the Earth witness to your connection and harmony. The plight of the Earth witnesses to your ongoing call to action and participation.

As we celebrate today, let us learn the lessons the Earth has to teach and recommit to our call to care for creation as loving stewards. Renew in us a spirit of connection with creation as it is threatened by our greed, apathy and consumption. Move us to act in such a way that we may be agents in the Earth's renewal. Help us remember that we, too, are your creatures and in you we find life, breath and being. Amen.



© 2019 Catholic Health Association of the United States

God of Creation, we are grateful for the gift of creation. The creatures of the Earth witness to your play and creativity. The abundance of the Earth witnesses to your ongoing care and provision. The delicate systems of the Earth witness to your connection and harmony. The plight of the Earth witnesses to your ongoing call to action and participation.

As we celebrate today, let us learn the lessons the Earth has to teach and recommit to our call to care for creation as loving stewards. Renew in us a spirit of connection with creation as it is threatened by our greed, apathy and consumption. Move us to act in such a way that we may be agents in the Earth's renewal. Help us remember that we, too, are your creatures and in you we find life, breath and being. Amen.



© 2019 Catholic Health Association of the United States