

# Spring Prayer Reflection

*Let heaven rejoice and Earth be glad,  
Let all creation sing...*

Gently come to stillness...  
Relaxing the body into a comfortable position...  
Become aware of the pulsating rhythm of life as you  
inhale and exhale.  
Let the abundance of life and love flow through each  
breath you take.  
Simply receiving...  
Gazing at the image...  
Open to each moment...  
To the Presence of the One who creates and loves.



## Prayer

Bless us God our Father,  
The immense beauty of the universe is an expression of your love for us.  
The Earth in its freshness, the trees and plants in their grandeur,  
Allow us to cherish the beauty of life – in the person and in nature,  
Bequeathed by the stewardship of our ancestors.

Renew us, Lord Jesus, in whom all things are renewed  
By the grandeur of your saving grace.  
You taught us love in all its fullness.  
Teach us to be active stewards of your creation – defending the rights of  
our people, protecting our mountains, lands, trees and animals,  
renewing what we have lost through our neglect.

Empower us, Holy Spirit, to embrace a life of stewardship  
rejecting all forms of abuse in our environment  
inspiring a cleaner and sustainable future for our children,  
developing innovative solutions  
to address environmental degradation and climate change.  
We praise you and thank you as we care for the gift of our existence  
and the creation of our world.

Amen



## Psalm 100: 1-5

### You are with us always, O God

Acclaim God with joy, all the Earth!  
Serve God with gladness!  
Enter into God's presence with a joyful song!  
Know that the living God is God!

God made us, and we belong to the Creator;  
We are God's people  
And the sheep of God's pasture.

Enter God's gate with thanksgiving  
and the courts with praise!  
Give thanks to God!

Bless God's name!  
For God is good;  
God's steadfast love endures forever,  
And God's faithfulness to all generations.

Glory to you, Holy One,  
Creator, Life, and Spirit of Growth.  
Glory to you forever!

*Inclusive Bible*

## Gospel

### John 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word. And the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was made nothing that was made. Whatever came to be, found life in him, life which was also light for all people. The light shines in the dark; the light that darkness could not overcome.

## Personal Reflection

- **“Through him all things were made; without him nothing was that has been made,”**  
**How do you feel about this?**  
**Who is John talking about?**  
**What is God's invitation to you?**
- **What are the voices and sounds around you that draw you to the love of God the Creator?**



- What are the voices and sounds around you that you used to hear?  
Why have they gone now?
- How can you lift up the voices of those who aren't heard in your communities?

### **Response**

#### ***Prayer of our Earth***

**O Lord hear my prayer  
O Lord hear my prayer  
When I call, answer me.  
O Lord hear my prayer  
O Lord hear my prayer  
Come and listen to me**

All powerful God,  
You are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures.  
You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.  
Pour out upon us the power of your love,  
That we may protect life and beauty.

O God of the poor,  
Help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten  
of this Earth, so precious in your eyes.  
Bring healing to our lives,  
That we may protect the world and not prey on it,  
That we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,  
To be filled with awe and contemplation,  
To recognize that we are profoundly united  
With every creature as we journey towards your infinite light.

**O Lord hear my prayer  
O Lord hear my prayer  
When I call, answer me.  
O Lord hear my prayer  
O Lord hear my prayer  
Come and listen to me**

### **Petition**

God of life,  
you draw all of creation into communion.  
Empower us to live your vision wholeheartedly  
and with loving kindness.  
Amen.

## Words of Wisdom

*God looked at all of this creation and proclaimed that this was good - very good. Genesis 1:31*

**ALL CREATION, FROM THE DISTANT STARS TO THE DEPTHS OF THE SEAS, IS HELD TOGETHER BY THE ONENESS OF LOVE. Psalm 33:7**

***"Wherever we may be, let God's glory absorb our thoughts deliberations and actions."*** Mary MacKillop (1898)

**"God is watching over God's work."** Mary MacKillop (1882)

"Glance at the sun. See the moon and the stars.

Gaze at the beauty of Earth's greenings. Now, think.

What delights God gives to humankind with all these things.

Who gives all these shining, wonderful gifts, if not God?" St Hildegard

"All created things give us ideas and glimpses of the beauty of the infinitely beautiful creator." Julian Tenison Woods (1881)

*Every rock, every leaf, every insect has something beautiful, nay wonderful to tell...*

*The flowers will unveil the hidden secrets of their beauty; the stones reveal their crystalline structure...*

*all new, all varied, all instructive, and all tending to raise the mind to higher and nobler conceptions of what creation does to declare the glory of its author.* Julian Tenison Woods (1880)

Nature is an exquisite cathedral, a place where we can tune in to the heartbeat of the Creator and experience the growth of heart and spirit. "The world is in truth a holy place." Teilhard de Chardin

## Prayer for Creation

All-Powerful God, You are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love

That we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with peace, that we may live as sisters and brothers in perfect harmony.

Teach us to discover the dignity of each thing,

to recognize that we are profoundly united

with all of creation as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day

Encourage us as we strive for justice, love and peace.

Amen.

