

Surrounded by God's love on display in the gift of all creation, I pray that we honor our gift, share our gift and do no harm to this magnificent gift. Whatever harm we have done, may we turn around from continuing harm and be shown how we must help to heal the damage we have done. May we join all of creation in the joy we feel as we move simply in the world, unencumbered by materialism and greed, and filled with appreciation for the divine's reflection in the swallows dancing over the river, the Osprey braying in the breeze and rustling leaves the breath of the divine stirs. May we serve as instruments of peace and reconciliation as we ride the wings of Love to hope and healing.



Prayers for Creation

Collected by

The Hope for Creation Committee
Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist
Spokane, Washington

2025

Lord of Creation
Maker of all things
Healer of the broken
Mender of the torn
Cultivator of everything good
We humbly ask for peace.
We see your creation taken for power,
We see your work smashed and mangled
We see your good things used for evil
We see your world left to wither
Spirit, grant us courage in the face of destruction
Father, grant us persistence when all seems lost
Christ, grant us compassion toward all,
 as you have been compassionate toward us.
Allow us to be menders, planters, cultivators
 and healers
Bringing your world back together.
May we recognize that what you have made
Is inherently lovable and loved,
We are inherently lovable and loved
And because we are loved we return
 that love to You.
Amen.



Let's take care of the earth

All people
Everywhere
It is our only home.

The stars and the planets
Are too far away.

They were not given to us
To inhabit with these bodies,
but to guide and inspire.

We can be
The gentle
The meek,
The careful
Who inherit the earth.

We can think of our children
And their children
And their children's children.

We can share her resources
We do not need to hoard them
She has enough for us all.

Enjoy her beauty
She feeds your souls
Be inspired to create
More beauty
More abundance
We can do this together.



Let us take a moment to allow the thoughts of our hearts,
the thoughts of our minds and the thoughts of our spirits
to collect into one common thought. It is a remarkable
thing that mere words allow us to do so.

Here we live on this most rare, most beautiful planet,
aware of our place at this most incredible time when we
contemplate what kind of Earthly environment generation
after generation will inherit. It has not been long
that humans have had such thoughts. Let us be exceedingly
grateful for our lives and the lives of all creatures
on this Earth.

Here we breathe, with billions of our own kind crowding
other species, imposing our choices on all, when our
brilliant scientific society is just beginning to be able to
hear them speak, the way indigenous people have heard
them speak all along. Let us listen more carefully to the
cries of humans struggling to be heard, and to creatures
who speak in languages we barely perceive.

Here we study, learning how to allow human imagination
and creativity to flourish without harmful consequences
of that insatiable imagination. May we temper
knowledge with wisdom, and our zeal with humility.
May all of our senses tend to us the sanctity of life as we
strive to keep the world whole for a long, long time.



God we ask for your mercy and help.

We have filled the waters of the earth with poison and pollution.

We have harmed people, animals, fish and plants with this water.

We have continued to fill the waters with chemicals, plastics and garbage even when we know this is harmful.

God have mercy on us and forgive us.

Help us to care for these precious waters that sustain us.

We have poisoned and polluted the land.

We have destroyed forests and fields.

Our foods are no longer rich in nutrients.

We continue to harm people, animals and plants with our poisons and pollution.

God have mercy on us and forgive us.

Help us to care for the land that sustains us.

We have poisoned and polluted the air.

We continue to burn fossil fuels that are heating our atmosphere.

We are harming people, animals and plants with these poisons and pollution.

We know this, yet we continue to burn and pollute our air.

God have mercy on us and forgive us.

Good and gracious God, we thank you for your gift of Pope Francis to our world. While we mourn his loss to us and our world, we are grateful for the example and inspiration of his love for You, his empathy for the poor and his concern for all of creation and all of your creatures. Help us, we pray, to follow Francis' refutation of consumption and materialism and be a better advocate and steward of all that you have created and provided for us. We pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

leaders



In the wake of Pope Francis' death, may we be emboldened to know that there are leaders who care about creation. We pray that those leaders, along with the Holy Spirit, would move other powerful figures to turn their hearts toward the protection of our vast, dynamic environment and make meaningful change.

Creator and Redeemer of all that is, source and foundation of time and space, matter and energy, life and consciousness: Awaken in us an awareness that we are connected to all of creation and that our well-being is linked to the well-being of this earth, our island home. Open our eyes to see the ways we fail to honor this relationship and desecrate your creation. Open our ears to hear the earth's lament, and to repent the damage we inflict upon this world and the damage done on our behalf. Arouse in us a concern for those who will come after us and a willingness to change our ways. Instill in us a closer relationship with our Sister Earth and teach us to walk lightly through this land and. Amen.



Please forgive us Lord for being short sighted when it comes to the belief that our resources are unlimited. Please protect us from the extreme weather events taking place. In Jesus Christ I pray. Amen.



Help us to care for the air that sustains us.
The earth is suffering and groaning
With floods and fires.
Glaciers are melting and forests are disappearing
While deserts are increasing.

Oh God forgive us!

We have done this to the beautiful earth you created,
filled with living creatures that we are harming, including
ourselves.

We have ignored the warnings and

We have not acted when we realized long ago we were
culpable.

God we ask you to help us do what is right.

Help us to care for our planet and all who inhabit it.

Even now, if you do not help us it will be too late.

We put our hope in you. Help us and sustain us.

God have mercy on us! Amen



Oh god, you call us to be responsible stewards of all that you have created. We have not heeded this call; we treat your creation as if it were our own, as if it were a commodity. Forgive us, oh god, and give us the will to move from domination to companionship with all creatures, and from abuse of creation to healing of it.



Creator God, you gave us a world with everything we need to thrive. But we have not always cared for it as you asked us to. We have been greedy instead of preserving and sharing your gifts. Give us the grace to have a change of heart, to learn how to care for this wonderful home of ours, and to share the resources with all the creatures who live here. Amen.



God of abundance,
Forgive our reckless waste of water and earth.
Forgive the reckless harm we cause others
By flooding their homes with toxic waste
And our discarded, unwanted clothes
disguised as charity.
Forgive us for harming your abundant creation
with our desire for fuel.
Instead of harm, we wish to share our space and bread
with all.
In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

We pray for those who are most vulnerable, most at the mercy of decisions made in the halls of power. May their voices be heard and their lives be recognized and revered.



I pray that today and every day, We live and work to protect nature and biodiversity for future generations.



Earth care, people care, fair share



I thank God for the beauty of creation and the privilege of being alive. I pray that we will come to our senses and seek ways to preserve our earth and all its inhabitants so that our grandchildren can experience this wonderful world too.



We ask forgiveness, God of all creation, for our neglect of your world and its inhabitants. We have been selfish, greedy, unloving and stupid. Open our eyes and hearts and help us to find ways to heal and preserve what you have so generously given us.



Holy God,

We stand at this liminal moment, unsure how to proceed, uncertain who to believe, or who to trust. Yet we are certain that our current course will deliver us far from where we are called to be. We seek your wisdom yet find it difficult to move beyond our own thinking. We desire serenity but lose it in our attempts to control an ever-changing reality.

Teach us again, Holy Father, how to live in peace with each other, and trust in the way you have called us to walk humbly in search of the love sufficient for this moment.



Oh god, in your creation we see pollution and destruction, misuse and abuse. We are often blind and deaf to your call to us to be faithful stewards. Yet we also see those who like prophets cry out and care, who infuse us with spirit to pause and reconsider the wonder and use of your creation. Open our eyes, oh god, to see your hand at work in the world, and in the hands of all who care for it. Awaken our consciences to know the needs of all creatures – flora and fauna – so we can live in partnership with them.



I pray

- ✻ That wind will always be a gentle caress on our cheeks like the fluttering of birds' wings and not a destroyer of habitats and that which we build;
- ✻ That fire will always keep us warm and not be blazing infernos
- ✻ That water will always quench our thirst and not poison aquatic life and our bodies
- ✻ That air will always breathe inspiration into us and bring us closer to God and not choke us with toxic chemicals and pollution
- ✻ That in caring for our environment we will save ourselves



Lord and Creator of the air that we breathe,
How thankful we are for the scents of flowers carried
by the spring breezes.
Their fragrance just about beats out those whiffs
of car exhaust.
Remind us that we share this air with countless other
species and that putting pollutants into the air affects
all life.
Teach us how to be better stewards of your world.

Wait - did You just tell me something? To walk to the
store? And notice the flowers along the way? And enjoy
the scents? And get exercise? And waste less gas?

Thanks, I'll try it. You might be a pretty good teacher.
Let's walk together.
Amen

We give you thanks, oh god, for the beauty and wonder of your creation: for the birds whose flight and song give us joy; for the play and nourishment of the oceans and streams; for the peaks which inspire us and from which rivers flow. We give thanks also for our brothers and sisters who show your care for creation: for environmentalists, for gardeners, for indigenous persons, and for protesters who, like prophets, call us to greater awareness of your presence in all things.



Holy and Gracious One, you speak life into being, you call us into holy community, and you embrace all as beloved. We lament the damage done to our siblings who are not human by our arrogance and greed. We lament our blindness to the needs of the earth and our sin in the brokenness of our relationship with the rest of creation. You are the one who brings healing, inspire our repentance, turn our heart, strengthen our hands, and stir up our commitment to a new way of being, one that embodies your love and walks with humility with all of the earth. May our words be more than words, and may your will be our will, this we pray in your name. Amen.



God created a natural order when he made the earth. The air we breath and the soil we walk upon, the homes we live in were not intended to do us harm. When that order is disrupted and as severely as it has been in the are of Shoshone County, otherwise known as the Silver Valley, Bunker Hill Superfund site, chaos, confusion, and adversity for human rights and health reigns. One hundred years after the first reporting of the lead and heavy metal pollution”. Barbara Miller/SVCRC Director

Originally written 9/17/98 updated 4/6/23 The only change is the Superfund site has been extended, there is no cleanup, epa is contributing to the pollution and contamination. Nothing with exception of the SVCRC CRBU project the only proactive lead health intervention in the 1500, 2 State Superfund has changed.

The following is for those fighting for the shut down of the Old Mission toxic waste dump site, spreading tons of contamination downstream to the CDA, Spokane River, situated on native ancestral land.

Love the land as those who have gone before you have loved it,
Care for it as they have cared for it,
And with all your strength, with all your mind,
with all your heart,
Preserve it for your children”

Chief Seattle's Testimony 1854

O Creator of all that is, Give us the mindfulness and intention To honor the beautiful earth You have lovingly created...

OPEN OUR HEARTS

O Creator of all that is, Help us to be generous with our compassion and care For the earth that cries out from wounds we have inflicted...

FORGIVE US OUR NEGLIGENCE

O Creator of all that is, Guide us in your way to resist destructive activities that undermine the beauty of your creation...

FORGIVE US OUR APATHY

O Creator of all that is, Give us Your wisdom and good judgement To know how to be change agents for our environment...

FORGIVE US OUR IGNORANCE

O Creator of all that is, Lead us into actions of reclamation for this earth that You have walked upon, so You might recognize it again...

AWAKEN OUR AWARENESS

O Creator of all that is, Empower our collective consciousness within our community to be a powerful force of change Through your Grace...

MAY IT BE SO

AMEN



Lakota Lament for Unci Maka

Unci Maka is Grandmother Earth, my relative.

Unci Maka nurtures the community of creation, all my relatives.

For thousands of years, she has tended all that has been created,

Carried us on her back with the love of kinship, the deepest, richest relationship.

The way to break her heart is to break that kinship, to shrug off that right relationship.

Unci Maka is a created being and has agency, a voice.

We hear her crying out, lamenting broken relationship.

Where we once offered gratitude and tended her in return

We are selling, buying, extracting, neglecting, forgetting
Unci Maka,

our Grandmother, our relative.

Oblivious to the crumbling hoop of life that the community of creation once shared,

We fail to recognize her voice in the earthquakes, fires, and feral winds.

We feel her suffering in the unseasonable heatwaves that slowly cook the swimming relatives.

We once made our decisions not just for ourselves but for the next 7 generations,

Doing the impossible to ensure that some may live and continue in kinship with Unci Maka.

We passed road markers, warning signs, and detours.

Yet, we are in the continuum of hope, the ongoing generations,

Kindling Hope as a relative that it might sustain the community of relatives in ways of life.

Prayers on the wind for our beloved Mother Earth.
Blessings upon Her and all Relatives upon her...the four-
legged, the two-legged, the ones that fly, the ones who
live in the ground and in the waters, the small ones, the
plant nation and the Standing Tall tree nation. And may
the Creator's love and light always surround, protect and
minimize all harm to Her. And so may it be.

Wophila ('Thank you' in Lakota)



O God of warmth and light,
Of cold and dark, whose life is alive in all that lives,
safeguard your creatures
and the created order that harbors them
and strengthen us
to turn away from the ease of self indulgence
and toward the shared labor
of stewarding this Earth, our home,
until the return of our brother
Jesus Christ,
Who will, with you and the Holy Spirit,
Make us and all of this world
A new creation. Amen



Lord of the wilderness
Do not let us turn all the stones into bread or batteries
Give to us distrust in the
Angels who visit us with
Promises of kingdoms accessible by jet fuel.
Give us, instead, eyes to see the stars from here
where we are,
To know the sacrifice present
In our daily food,
To love the child promised
In real human bodies,
To hope present in only what is provided.



Asking
For yearning to make the earthly life better for all,
not just "I"
For awareness and understanding of the interconnection
of life on Earth and beyond
For compassion to guide decision-making
For courage to act the values we say we hold
To respond to the suffering, not to turn away
For moments of joy and laughter amid sorrow
and anxiety.

