

## Prayer – 1 September 2025



### Introduction:

In this special season we commit to prayer and action on behalf of our Earth-home and all beings who share it with us. The theme “Peace with Creation” with the symbol “Garden of Peace” calls us to reflect on Isaiah’s lament in Chapter 32:14-18 about the desolation of Creation and the hope of its return to peace and harmony. Humans have played a major role in the devastation and destruction, but we still hold on to the hope that Creation will find peace with the restoration of justice in our world...and so we pray.

**Hymn:** Kathy Sherman, Touch the Earth <https://youtu.be/1NpDwOCGE20?si=-itBwRHcptveNTLG>

**Opening Prayer:** 2025 Season of Creation Guide, p.14

Creator of all,  
We praise you for the gift of life and for the faith  
that unites us in care for our common home.  
We confess how estranged we have become-  
from one another, from your Creation and from our truest selves.

We acknowledge that our greed and destructive impulses have fractured  
our relationships with You, with others and with Earth.

May we come together as one family to labour for your peace – a shalom  
where all your people may dwell in safety and rest in quiet places. Amen

### Readings:

- For the palace will be forsaken, the populous city deserted until a spirit from on high is poured out on us, and the wilderness becomes a fruitful field, and the fruitful field is deemed a forest. Then justice will dwell in the wilderness and righteousness abide in the fruitful field. The effect of righteousness will be peace and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever. My people will in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings and in quiet resting places. (Isaiah 32:14-18)

- Environmental justice – implicitly proclaimed by the prophets- can no longer be regarded as an abstract concept or a distant goal. It is an urgent need that involves much more than simply protecting the environment. For it is a matter of justice—social, economic and human... In a world where the most vulnerable of our brothers and sisters are the first to suffer the effects of climate change, deforestation and pollution, care for creation becomes an expression of our faith and humanity .Pope Leo XIV, For Care of Creation 2025-1 Sept, Seeds of Peace and Hope, #8

*What gives me hope in times when darkness seems to prevail?  
How can I return to Earth the love, care and nourishment I receive from her?*

### **Blessing:**

Loving Creator God,

May we grow in wonder and gratitude for the marvels of your creation and in our awareness that we are intimately connected to all that is

**We pray, loving Creator God**

May our eyes be open to the cry of Earth and Earth's suffering people who bear the effects of human exploitation and unbridled consumption

**We pray, loving Creator God**

May we have the courage to denounce all that disfigures your creation and commit fully to caring for our Earth home and for all beings who inhabit Earth

**We pray, loving Creator God**

May our lives be characterized by respect, compassion and service so that we may embody your love in our relationships with one another and with all of creation

**We pray, loving Creator God**



**May the God Who is Creator, Sustainer and Redeemer renew our spirits and help us to foster life wherever we are. Amen.**