

CREATION CARE

prayers

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

Prayer of Confession (Psalm 19:11-14, The Message)

God of life, your Word warns us of danger and directs us to hidden treasure. Otherwise, how will we find our way or know when we play the fool? Who can see their own errors? Deliver me, Lord, from hidden faults! Keep me safe, also, from willful sins; don't let them rule over me. Then I shall be blameless and free from the evil of sin.

[silent confession]

Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, our Rock and our Redeemer. Amen.

Prayer of Confession: The Earth is the Lord's -Carissa Groot-Nibbelink

Congregation: The earth is the Lord's and everything in it.

Leader: And yet, we've misused it for our gain,
Contributed to its destruction to ensure an extravagant lifestyle,
Neglected its cries for restoration.

Congregation: The earth is the Lord's and everything in it.

Leader: And yet, we greedily deplete this gift of abundance.
We take instead of receive, consume instead of give, demand instead
of thank.

Congregation: The earth is the Lord's and everything in it.

Leader: And yet, our own wants have taken priority over the needs of
others.
Because of our indifference, species of animals and plants are
becoming extinct. Because of our acts of discrimination,
racialized communities live closest to the sources of pollution.

Because of our selfishness, Indigenous people are forced to fight for
the protection of their own land.

Because of our apathy, poverty stricken areas are left with unsanitary
drinking water.

Because of our carelessness, Bodies of water fill with waste.

Congregation: The earth is the Lord's and everything in it.

Leader: And yet, we do not take responsibility for our actions or lack
thereof. Instead, we are quick to point fingers—to blame and accuse.
Though we see the pains and hear the groans of this beaten world, we
continue to pass by on the other side of the road.

Creator God, Lord of the earth and everything in it, forgive us.

And now, Creator God, Just as you breathed life into dust, breathe
anew into your people—that these ashes of confession may bring
your justice, peace, and hope to the once dust of this world.

Creator God, you make beautiful things out of the dust. Give us the
eyes to see, the voices to declare, the hands and minds to affirm this
truth:

Congregation: The earth is the Lord's and everything in it. Amen.

