PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Prayer of Intercession (Early Summer)
-Christine Jerrett
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We live day by day wrapped in your love, sustained by your Spirit’s breath, set free through Jesus’ death and resurrection to share in your reconciling work. We praise you for such glorious gifts. Help us to enter more deeply into the truth of your creative power.

We live day by day in a world groaning from the effects of our carelessness and arrogance. We thank you for those people who work to waken us to the wonders of creation; who give voice to the suffering of this earth; who keep calling us to greater care and better stewardship of our fragile home.

We pray for children who are finishing their school year, anticipating the joys of summer. Open their eyes to your glory in the beauty of this world. Make us attentive to opportunities to journey more deeply with them into wonder and awe.

You send us out week by week to witness to your grace and love in the places where we live and play and work and serve. We open our spirits to your Spirit, that the witness we make may reflect your glory and bring you joy, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer of Intercession for Water Stewardship
-Prayer from Ursulines of the Roman Union

Creator God, whose Spirit moved over the face of the waters, who gathers the seas into their places and directs the course of the rivers, who sends rain upon the earth that it should bring forth life; we praise you for the gift of water.

We believe that water belongs to the earth and to all species. We believe that water must be conserved for all time. We believe that polluted water must be reclaimed. We believe that water is best protected in natural watersheds.

We believe that water is a public trust to be guarded at all levels of government. We believe that an adequate supply of clean water is a basic human right. Create in us a sense of wonder and delight in this and all your gifts, that we might receive them with gratitude, care for them with love and generously share them with all your creatures, to the honor and glory of your name. Amen.
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Idea for Prayer: Intercession for Uprooted Peoples
-Karri Munn-Venn
Find other ideas for prayer from Citizens for Public Justice

Climate change is not just an environmental issue.

It affects social stability, economies, and educational systems. It impacts the pursuits of equality and global peace. It plays out in ecosystems and community health, technology, and transportation systems.

The current legacy of climate change is mostly the fault of developed countries and wealthy consumers. However, it is communities in least developed countries, low-lying states, and small island nations that will be most negatively impacted by climate change.

 Extreme weather events, climate variability, and sea level rise due to climate change are already uprooting communities. Fierce typhoons in the Philippines have displaced hundreds of thousands of people; changing rainfall patterns in Peru have severely threatened food production; and unusually heavy monsoon rains in Pakistan have caused flooding that killed thousands and displaced millions.

Listen to the challenges of international climate migration
Read the stories of people who have to migrate
Reflect on how our carbon footprint may cause the forced migration of many feet. Think about how climate change will affect your community, and how your community can affect climate change.
Pray for those whose stories of migration you hear, and those whose stories may never be told. Pray that policies on climate issues will be grounded in principles of equity and justice.
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Idea for Prayer: Intercession for your Watershed
-Karri Munn-Venn
Find other ideas for prayer from Citizens for Public Justice

One way to get to know your ecological community is to learn about and inhabit your watershed.

A watershed is the area of land from which surface water drains to a single point. Watersheds can be outlined at many scales, and so connect us within our neighborhoods, our neighborhoods within our country, and our countries within continents. No matter where you are, you are in a watershed! Watersheds unite our ecological communities, and they facilitate the cycling of water that sustains life. Human activity on land and in waterways affects our watersheds.

Climate change will negatively impact our watersheds: more variability in rain patterns may compromise fresh water availability and increase risks of water-borne disease. Shrinking glaciers in the Rockies are leaving less meltwater for aquatic and human ecosystems. Bodies of freshwater are expected to shrink, and droughts may become more frequent in the Prairies. Aquatic ecosystems in Canada’s North are particularly at risk due to water temperature fluctuations.

Learn about the current threats—including climate change—to the health of Canadian watersheds using WWF’s interactive watershed reports map.
Read the theology behind watershed stewardship, and consider joining KAIROS’ Reconciliation in the Watershed program.

Now, go for a prayer walk in your watershed! Think about how your community’s activity affects your watershed.

Imagine how the water you see will flow to be connected with water from all across your watershed. Reflect on how your watershed, and its wellbeing, fits into the global cycling of water.