

CREATION CARE

prayers

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

Prayer of Thanksgiving: The Earth is the Lord's
-Anna Gabhart

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

Jesus, in your life, death, and resurrection you showed us your glory through miracles and works done in and through creation. Water and dirt. Wine and bread. You used the familiar, the tangible, the known.

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

Jesus, you were baptized with water, the water of Genesis, the waters of creation. The heavens opened up and the Spirit rained down, and we were made clean. We were made right and new, and with water your righteousness was fulfilled. Thank you for giving us a visible sign of an invisible grace.

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

Jesus, at the marriage feast in Cana, you turned water into wine and we saw a glimpse of your glory. We witnessed a miracle through the ordinary and the natural. The simplicity of water to the rich, flavorful complexity of wine. Thank you for your creation, for joy and gladness, for showing us your authority over all things.

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Jesus, you spat on the ground and made mud. Dirt and saliva, spread over the blind man's eyes then washed in the waters of Siloam. And the blind man's eyes were opened to the beauty of your creation, and our eyes were opened to the wonder of your works. And we are thankful.

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Continued

And in that same dirt, Jesus, you bent down and wrote with your finger a message to the accusers of an adulteress woman. Not a stone was thrown. And she stood and went and sinned no more. And we saw that by your grace, by your works, by your goodness, we are always forgiven.

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Jesus, on the night of your betrayal, you ate and drank with your disciples, bread and wine. You fed them, you ate with them, and with water you washed the dirt from their feet. Come to us, Lord Jesus.

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

Lord we are thankful that we belong to you, that this earth belongs to you. We are thankful for your miracles and works done through dirt and water, bread and wine. With all creation we praise you Lord.

Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Harvest

Fritz Pawelzik

First published in [Reformed Worship, Issue 16](#)

Lord of lords, Creator of all things, God of all things, God over all gods, God of sun and rain, you created the earth with a thought and with your breath.

Lord, we brought in the harvest. The rain watered the earth, the sun drew cassava and corn out of the clay. Your mercy showered blessing after blessing over our country. Creeks grew into rivers; swamps became lakes. Healthy fat cows grazed on the green sea of the savanna. The rain smoothed out the clay walls; the mosquitoes perished in the high waters.

Lord, the yam is fat like meat, the cassava melts on the tongue, oranges burst in their peels, dazzling and bright.

Lord, nature gives thanks, your creatures give thanks. Your praise rises in us like the great river.

Lord of lords, Creator, Provider, we thank you in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

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Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Gift of Air

-John Paarlberg

First published in [Reformed Worship, Issue 35](#)

Creator God,
who sets the stars in their places
and directs the courses of the planets,
who has robed this earth with a thin garment of air,
making it a haven of beauty and life,
who has breathed into each of us
the breath of life:

We thank you for the gift of air.

Create in us
such a sense of wonder and delight
in this and in 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 holy name.

Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Gift of Water

-John Paarlberg

First published in [Reformed Worship, Issue 35](#)

Creator God,
whose Spirit moved
over the faces of the waters,
who gathers
the sea into their places,
and directs
the courses of the rivers,
who sends rain upon the earth
that it should bring forth life:
We praise you for the gift of water.

Continued

Create in us
such 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 holy name.

Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Gift of Soil

-John Paarlberg

First published in [Reformed Worship, Issue 35](#)

Creator God,
who lifted up the mountains and formed
the dry land,
whose hands have shaped us out of
the dust of the earth,
who has formed the soils and made this earth
a place of beauty and abundance:

We give you thanks for the gift of soil.

Create in us
such 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 holy name.

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