

## *EARTH DAY PRAYER 2021*

For April 22 this year the Earth Day environmental movement chose the theme: **Restore Our Earth**. This movement captures the attention of people in 192 countries. Their objectives are twofold: 1) Raise awareness of climate change and global warming among the masses. 2) Inspire people to act towards the protection of the environment with a focus on the need for conservation. The overarching message they want to convey is:

*TOGETHER  
WE HAVE THE POWER TO RESTORE OUR EARTH*

**GATHERING HYMN**    Canticle of the Sun (# 542, CBW III)

### **OPENING PRAYER**

Loving God, you created all things and you redeem all things. We pray for the earth, for the whole of creation, as together we work for the day in which all things will once again be brought to life and wholeness in you. Give us the will to be agents of your healing and redemption—for ourselves and for the blessed world in which we live, now and forever. Amen

Adapted from The Green Bible devotional p. 26

**READING**    Hosea 4.1-3

Hear the word of the Lord, O Israel; for the Lord has an indictment against the inhabitants of the Land. There is no faithfulness or loyalty, and no knowledge of God in the land. Swearing, lying, and murder, and stealing and adultery break out; bloodshed follows bloodshed. Therefore, the land mourns, and all who live in it languish; together with the wild animals and the birds of the air, even the fish in the sea are perishing.            NRV The Green Bible

### **REFLECTION**

- How is your experience of the COVID 19 Pandemic changing your perspective on global warming and the need for earth restoration?

\*\*\*\*\*

## **INTERCESSORY PRAYERS**

**R. May we live in harmony with earth.**

- For world government leaders that they may use their influence and power positively to enact and monitor legislation meant to protect the environment. **R.**
- For the people and lands that have suffered from natural disasters, that there is a return to hope and that bountiful resources help restore the people and the land to wholeness. **R.**
- For scientists throughout the world who are working diligently to develop solutions to the problem of global warming, that their efforts are recognized and successful. **R.**
- That government representatives and individuals take responsibility and action to preserve the natural habitats of all animals, birds and fish. **R.**
- That we are mindful of using only what we need and responsibly disposing the 'garbage' produced in our homes and environment. **R.**
- That we make a diligent effort to pass on reusable items or those that can be repurposed, minimizing needless use of land fill. **R.**

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

Creating God, in you everything on Earth and in the heavens is bound together in perfect harmony. Strengthen our resolve to work more passionately for the healing of Earth. In this time of COVID Pandemic fill us with much needed hope and beauty. Instill in us a firm belief that united with you and each other and with everything that lives, we have the power to transform our earth. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen

**CLOSING HYMN** For the Beauty of the Earth (#531, CBW III)

Prepared by S. Rita Godon on behalf of the Federation Ecology Committee