

# 2025 Season of Creation Prayer

## Peace with Creation

### 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 the Earth.  
Fertile fields have become barren,  
forests lie desolate,  
oceans and rivers are polluted.  
Thriving communities have become places of suffering,  
and the earth cries out.

### Beloved Christ,

who spoke “Shalom” to frightened hearts,  
stir us to compassionate action.  
Inspire us to work for the end of conflict,  
and for the full restoration of broken relationships—  
with you, with the ecumenical community,  
with the human family,  
and with all Creation.

### Prince of Peace,

through your wounds, teach us to stand in solidarity  
with the woundedness of others,  
of Creation, and of the world.  
Through your resurrection,  
make us people of hope—  
with a vision of swords turned into ploughshares  
and tears transformed into joy.  
May we come together as one family,  
to labor for your peace—  
a shalom where all your people  
may dwell in safety,  
and rest in quiet places.  
Amen.



# World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation | September 1, 2025

September 1, the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, opens the Season of Creation each year. Since adding this day to the Catholic liturgical calendar in 2015, Pope Francis issued an official message each year, offering his reflections on the Season of Creation ecumenical theme.

This year, 2025, he took a slightly different path. He chose a theme to complement and support the ecumenical theme of **Peace with Creation**. His theme: **Seeds of Peace and Hope**.

Then, as we know, on April 21st, Easter Monday, Pope Francis died, rising with Christ to new life of profound peace and prophetic hope.

While Francis had selected the Catholic theme for this year's Season of Creation, he left the reflection and official message to his successor.

Pope Leo XIV begins his reflection by noting how appropriate this theme is during this Jubilee year in which we are being called to be *Pilgrims of Hope*.

He then notes Jesus's frequent use of the image of seeds, even applying it to himself as a grain of wheat that must die to bring forth its fruit. In the mystery of their death, seeds are transformed and new life, new beginnings

emerge. In Christ, he writes, we too are seeds, "seeds of peace and hope."

Here he draws into his reflection this year's ecumenical theme based on Isaiah 32:14-18: the promise that "a spirit from on high will be poured out on us" and the desert created by so much injustice and abuse of Earth will be transformed into a fruitful field, a garden of beauty and peace.

That desert of devastation, however - from deforestation and pollution to the loss of biodiversity and ever more frequent and intense storms, fires, and even wars - is still with us. It hurts the poor, the marginalized, the excluded, and indigenous communities the most. And all of these wounds are the result of sin.

Pope Leo insists, then, that environmental justice is an urgent need, a matter of social, economic, and all-around human justice. And it is above all a duty born of faith since the Universe reflects the face of Jesus Christ. We must sow many seeds of justice to contribute to the growth of peace, offering us new hope.

He closes his message with these words:

I pray that Almighty God will send us in abundance his "Spirit from on high" (Isaiah

32:15), so that these seeds and others like them, may bring forth an abundant harvest of peace and hope.

The Encyclical **Laudato Sí** has now guided the Catholic Church and many people of good will for ten years. May it continue to inspire us and may integral ecology be increasingly accepted as the right path to follow. In this way, seeds of hope will multiply, to be "tilled and kept" by the grace of our great and unfailing Hope, who is the risen Christ. In his name, I offer all of you my blessing.

An ecumenical prayer service is available in the Season of Creation Celebration Guide, pp. 16-27, for use on September 1st and October 4th. It can be downloaded at [SeasonofCreation.org](http://SeasonofCreation.org).