***Eco Morning Prayer***

Leader: We must get up before the sun to bless you O God.

**People: And adore you at the break of day.** (Wisdom 16:28)

Creator and Redeemer, as we approach you in prayer:

Strengthen our paths

Strengthen our minds

Strengthen our hearts

Strengthen our speech

We pray first for your community, the Church, the body of Christ.

***I pray for all my relatives – all living things.***

God our Healer, love is something we must have. We must have it because our Spirit feeds upon it. We must have it because without it we become weak and faint. Without love, we weaken and our courage fails. Creator, you declared that love in your Son Jesus Christ. Help your Church declare that love in this world.

***I pray for all my relatives – all living things.***

Great Spirit, we feel you in the eland, the impala, with the mist on the lake and in the blue waves, in the call of the weavers. It is beautiful. You tell us heaven is still more beautiful. Injustice and suffering will be gone. We rejoice and look forward in hope as You help us build your kingdom in our communities. Those who have worn out their shoes know where to step. Help us to follow the footsteps of Jesus.

***I pray for all my relatives – all living things.***

God our Hope, life glows from the bosom of Mother Earth. Mother Earth throws off dead stalks and withered limbs; and new strong saplings arise. We ask such new life for those who suffer, and that they be sustained by Your spirit. We now remember those who suffer; those in special need. (Silence during which people may add petitions)

***I pray for all my relatives – all living things.***

God our Loving Creator, the faces of the past are like leaves that settled to the ground. They make the soil rich and thick, so that new fruit will come forth every summer. We give thanks for the wisdom the elders have passed down to us, and we ask that it may bear fruit in us. Let us remember those who have gone before. (Silence & petitions)

***I pray for all my relatives – all living things.***

Creator, you saw the world and declared it good. The beauty of the trees, the softness of the air, the fragrance of the grass speak to us. The summit of the mountain, the thunder of the sky, the rhythm of the rivers speak to us. The faintness of the stars, the freshness of the morning, the dewdrops on the flowers speak to us. But above all, our hearts soar, for you speak to us in your Son, our Brother, Jesus Christ, in whose name we offer these prayers. **Amen.** \*

**Penitence**

As we pray, we remember the wilderness God created, the wild places on Earth, the worlds of wonder and mystery,

**O God, we thank you for the majesty of creation**

We remember and confess how we have violated and polluted our planet.

**Christ, from the wilderness, hear our cry.**

We regret that we have forgotten Earth and treated this garden planet as a beast to be tamed and a place to be ruled.

**Christ, the hope of all creation, we lament our failings.**

We have desecrated sacred sites in the mountains.

We have destroyed the homes of wild creatures.

**Christ, the source of all life, we are sorry**. \*\*

**Psalm & First Lesson (as per lectionary or creation theme)**

***Canticle of Creation (St Francis of Assisi)***

O Most High, all-powerful, good Lord God,
to you belong praise, glory,
honour and all blessing.
Be praised, my Lord, for all your creation
and especially for our Brother Sun,
who brings us the day and the light;
he is strong and shines magnificently.
O Lord, we think of you when we look at him.
Be praised, my Lord, for Sister Moon,
and for the stars
which you have set shining and lovely
in the heavens.
Be praised, my Lord,
for our Brothers Wind and Air
and every kind of weather
by which you, Lord,
uphold life in all your creatures.
Be praised, my Lord, for Sister Water,
who is very useful to us,
and humble and precious and pure.
Be praised, my Lord, for Brother Fire,
through whom you give us light in the darkness:
he is bright and lively and strong.
Be praised, my Lord,
for Sister Earth, our Mother,
who nourishes us and sustains us,

bringing forth
fruits and vegetables of many kinds
and flowers of many colours.
Be praised, my Lord,
for those who forgive for love of you;
and for those
who bear sickness and weakness
in peace and patience

- you will grant them a crown.
Be praised, my Lord, for our Sister Death,
whom we must all face.
I praise and bless you, Lord,
and I give thanks to you,
and I will serve you in all humility.

**2nd Lesson (as per lectionary or creation theme)**

**CREED - The Affirmation of Faith\*\***

We believe that God creates all things,

renews all things, and celebrates all things.

**This we believe.**

Earth is a sanctuary,

a sacred planet filled with God’s presence,

a home for us to share with all creatures.

**This we believe.**

Every creature joins us in praising God.

We see many suffer with Earth

because of human crimes against creation.

**This we believe.**

God became incarnate

as a part of Earth, Jesus Christ,

that he lived and breathed and spoke among us,

suffered and died on a cross,

for all human beings and for all creation.

**This we believe.**

The risen Jesus Christ

fills the whole creation,

reconciling all things to God,

renewing all things.

**This we believe**.

The Holy Spirit renews life in creation,

groans in empathy with a suffering creation

and waits with us for the rebirth of creation.

**This we believe.**

We believe that with Christ we will rise

and with Christ we will celebrate a new creation, reconciled, restored, and renewed.Top of Form

Let us pray:

As we look again at the community of life around us,

**Lord, have mercy.**

As we seek to love the creatures of the planet,

**Christ, have mercy.**

As we seek to care for the earth,

**Lord, have mercy.** \*\*

**Our Creator in Heaven**

**hallowed be your name**

**your kingdom come**

**your will be done**

**on earth as in heaven**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial**

**and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours**

**now and forever. Amen**

**Prayers**

O Great Spirit!

Piler-up of the rocks into towering mountains!

When you stamp on the stones

The dust rises and fills the land

You are the one who calls the branching trees into life:

You make new seeds grow out of the ground so that they stand straight and strong.

You have filled the land with people.

* (Rozwi prayer) \*\*\*

My God, guard us

In the deep valleys full of dangers,

And in the plains without end,

And in the fords we cross small or large.

And God said, “All right”.

* (Samburu prayer) \*\*\*

**Collect**

God of unchangeable power, when you fashioned the world, the morning stars stand together and the host of heaven shouted for joy; open our eyes to the wonders of creation and teach us to use all things for good, to the honour of your glorious name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. \*\*\*\*

Amen

**Prayer of Peace**

Deep peace of the quiet earth to you

Deep peace of the still air to you

Deep peace of the forgiving heart to you

Deep peace of the Son of Peace.

- (Celtic Prayer) \*\*

**A Morning Prayer**

O god, you have let me pass the night in peace,

Let me pass the day in peace.

Wherever I may go upon my way

Which you made peaceable for me,

O God, lead my steps.

When I have spoken, keep lies away from me.

When I am hungry, keep me from murmering.

When I am satisfied, keep me from pride.

Calling upon you, I pass the day,

O Lord, who has no Lord.\*\*\*

* (Boran prayer) \*\*\*

***The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all forever. Amen.***

***References****: compiled by M Gordon using:*

*\*Prayers for Our Common Life, Celebration of Enmegahbowh, Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota, 2003*

*\*\*Season of Creation 3, Anglican Province of Southern Africa. 2014.*

*\*\*\*An African Prayer Book, by AB Desmond Tutu 1996.*

*\*\*\*\*New Zealand Prayer Book, 569*

*All else from An Anglican Prayer Book, CPSA 1989.*