

The Lord's Prayer and Creation Care: A Litany of Confession

Loving God, we remember that Jesus taught us to pray saying, "Our Father..."

You created us, you made this world, and you called your creation very good. Yet often we forget that you are our loving Parent who continues to bless your world.

Jesus told us that you are "...in heaven..."
Yet we fail to live in awe of you. We take you for granted, and we don't see the awesome beauty of the world you have made.

We pray, "Hallowed be your name..."

We confess that our reverence for you does not always lead us to care reverently for your earth, sky and sea.

We pray, "Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven..."

We confess that we often put our own interests first-exploiting your creation, and living for our own convenience and self-interest.

We pray, "Give us today our daily bread."

We confess that we consume more than our share of the world's resources, while billions go hungry every day and your whole creation suffers.

We pray, "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us."

We confess that we see these words only in spiritual terms, while the Bible is filled with teachings about economic justice and creation care.

We pray, "Save us from the time of trial."

Help us to resist the temptations of spending more, using more, acquiring more, and wasting more.

We pray, "Deliver us from evil..."

Free us from greed and self-centeredness that separate us from you and others.

We pray, "For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever."

Help us to know that in caring for your wonderful world, we are working for your kingdom, being good stewards of your creative power, and giving you glory.

We pray, "Amen."

We end our prayers with "Amen," a word that means "let it be so." We know we can be faithful disciples by your grace. Amen!

This litany was first used on July 25, 2010 in the worship service of Limestone Presbyterian Church in Wilmington, Delaware and was written by the church's pastors, Bruce and Carolyn Gillette.

THINKING GREEN

Action Steps

For your Faith Congregation and You

Turn things OFF !!!

Recycle your bulletins, cards, inserts, 5th Sunday envelopes

Recycle Sunday School material by sharing between classes and
between fellow churches

Church newsletters less frequently mailed and increase the use of e-mail

Replace bulbs with Compact Fluorescent lamps (CFL's) www.ahppil.org

Have a day event where you "Go Green for God !!!"
Children's project - pruning and pulling -fix leaks

Use the LEED Environmental Guidelines

Have outdoor space on church grounds? Communal gardening and share

After the Church-wide Yard Sale? Box it up and make previous plans to pick up
with Habitat for Humanity, Salvation Army, various area rescue ministries.

Eliminate as many paper/styro foam products as possible

Visit your church at 3 am

Publicly display church utility invoices

Use your local 'expertise' for information on **GOING GREEN**

****The more we work within our church ourselves to go green, that savings
can go to other visions, missions, appointments