

LECTIO DIVINA PRAYER RESOURCE

Our Common Home



Stillpoint
CENTER FOR SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

STILLPOINT PRAYER GROUP RESOURCE

SUBMITTED BY: STILLPOINT

DATE: 7/17/21

THEME: Nature: Our Common Home

Verbal Check-in:

Song (Attached): "The Canticle of the Creatures" by Saint Francis

Reflection:

Write your "now".

To Whom are you praying? Which face of God would you like to see right now?

Share it and write it in your journal.

Prayer/Word of God in Scripture (Attached):

Job 12: 7-10 or Psalm 96: 11-12

Notice what strikes you in the Word. Sit with it in silence. Write it in your journal.

Re-read your check-in: What is the connection? Write it next.

Share with the group as you feel so moved.

Remember the purpose of sharing is to give glory to God.

Quiet Reflection: Write word of praise in your journal.

Closing Song (Attached): "What a Wonderful World" by Louis Armstrong

(The group may pray aloud for any intentions each has at the end of the session).

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JOB 12: 7-10 7 "But ask the animals, and they will teach you, or the birds in the sky, and they will tell you; 8 or speak to the earth, and it will teach you, or let the fish in the sea inform you. 9 Which of all these does not know that the hand of the LORD has done this? 10 In his hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind.

PSALM 96: 11-12 11 Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let the sea resound, and all that is in it. 12 Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them; let all the trees of the forest sing for joy.

THE CANTICLE OF *Saint Francis*

The Canticle of the Creatures is a hymn of praise recognizing all creation as a manifestation of the goodness of God. The Canticle also represents a life of conversion, as Francis strove to be a brother to all things and to seek God amid sufferings. Francis composed The Canticles while he was laying ill in a hut near San Damiano. He sang of the human family (brother-sister-mother) as the model for all relationships. The Canticle of the Creatures reminds us that we humans are as dependent on the elements of creation as they are dependent on us. As the final song of his life, the Canticle reveals to us Francis's deep reflection on the mystery of the Incarnation.

The Canticle of the Creatures
By St. Francis of Assisi

Most High, all-powerful,
good Lord,
yours is the praise,
the glory and the honor and every blessing.

To you alone, Most High,
do they belong,
and no one is worthy
to speak your name.

Praised be you, my Lord
with all your creatures,
especially Sir Brother Sun,
who is the day through whom
you bring us light.

And he is lovely, shining
with great splendor,
for he heralds you, Most High.

Praised be you, my Lord,
through Sister Moon and Stars.
In heaven you have formed them,
lightsome and precious and fair.

And praised be you, my Lord,
through Brother Wind, through
air and cloud, through calm
and every weather by which
you sustain your creatures.

Praised be you, my Lord,
through Sister Water,
so very useful and humble,
precious and chaste.

Praised be you, my Lord
through Brother Fire,
by whom you light up
the night, and he is
handsome and merry,
robust and strong.

Praised be you, my Lord,
through our Sister, Mother Earth,
who sustains us and directs us
bringing forth all kinds of fruits
and colored flowers and herbs.

Praised be you, my Lord
through those who forgive
for your love
and who bear sickness and trial.

Blessed are those
who endure in peace,
for by you, Most High,
they will be crowned.

Praised be you, my Lord,
through our Sister Bodily Death
from whom no living being
can escape.

How dreadful for those
who die in mortal sin!
How blessed are those she
finds in your most holy will
for the second death
can do them no harm.

O praise and bless my Lord,
thank him and serve him
humbly but grandly!

WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD BY Louis Armstrong

I see trees of green
Red roses too
I see them bloom
For me and for you
And I think to myself
What a wonderful world

I see skies of blue
And clouds of white
The bright blessed day
The dark sacred night
And I think to myself
What a wonderful world

The colors of the rainbow
So pretty in the sky
Are also on the faces
Of people going by

I see friends shaking hands
Saying, "How do you do?"
They're really saying
"I love you"

I hear babies cry
I watch them grow
They'll learn much more
Than I'll ever know
And I think to myself
What a wonderful world

Yes, I think to myself
What a wonderful world
Ooh yeah

(Final)

I think to myself
What a wonderful world