

### **A Prayer in the Spirit of St. Francis of Assisi**

(A Prayer for every day)

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace:

Where there is poverty and ecological brokenness, let me help to restore Creation's integrity.

Where there is disregard for present and future generations of life, let me proclaim Your everlasting covenant with every living creature.

Where there is carelessness for Your beloved Creation, let me inspire respect.

Where there is arrogance, humility.

Where there is greed, generosity.

Where there is wastefulness, caring frugality.

Where there are false divisions, solidarity.

Where there is indifference to suffering, compassion.

Grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

To be understood as to understand;

To be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive, It is in the pardoning that we are pardoned,

And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

### **Prayer of Confession**

God of all Creation, we come to you in a moment of personal and corporate confession. We participate in a system which is exploitative and violent and which separates humanity from the rest of Creation. By acts of omission and commission we cause harm to others. At times we are guilty of complicity, passivity and denial, at other times of abuses of power. We hear the cries of both our fellow humans, who are already living in the midst of extreme poverty and hunger, and the cries of all creation. We know we bear responsibility for the pain of both, and we know the impact one has on the other. We confess our complicity in the plight of all of your Creation, and beg your forgiveness and mercy, that we may do better to follow in the way of You who creates. **Amen**

### **A Climate Prayer for the Prayers of the People**

Creator God, have mercy on our wayward world, tottering on the brink of self-destruction. Have mercy on those living in poverty around the world who are least responsible for the problems of climate change, yet stand to suffer the most. Have mercy on the rulers and statesmen who bear the ultimate burden of government. Have mercy on our nation as we face our share of responsibility. We recognize that we have allowed the values of consumerism to override the permanence of your Creation, and cause us to act in ways that damage your creation and wrap your children in the cycle of poverty. Have mercy on us all, and grant us your forgiveness. Amen.