



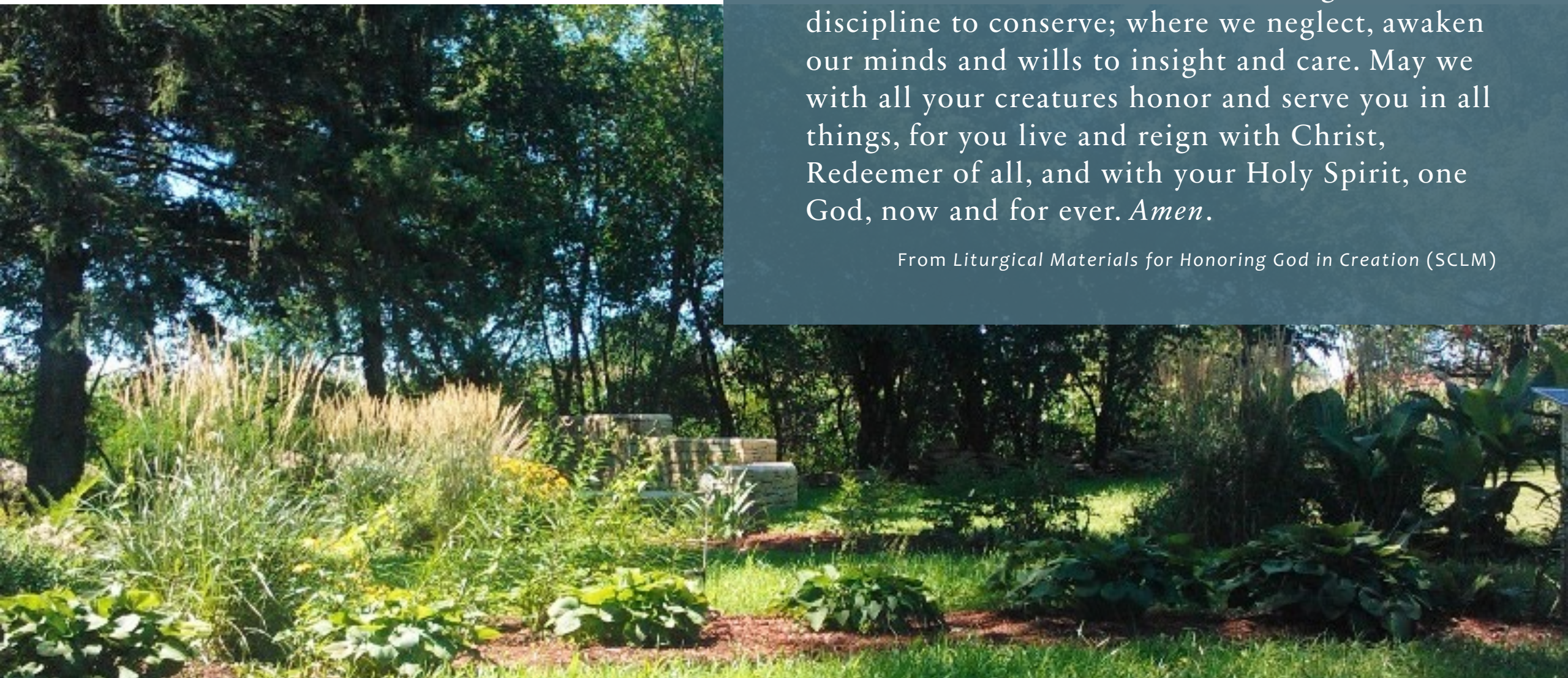
**ENLIVENING THE SEASON AFTER PENTECOST**  
**THANKSGIVING FOR CREATION**



## IN THE BEGINNING...

Bountiful God, you call us to labor with you in tending the earth: Where we lack love, open our hearts to the world; where we waste, give us discipline to conserve; where we neglect, awaken our minds and wills to insight and care. May we with all your creatures honor and serve you in all things, for you live and reign with Christ, Redeemer of all, and with your Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*From Liturgical Materials for Honoring God in Creation (SCLM)*







THE OUTDOORS HAS  
BECOME A HAVEN AND  
PLACE OF SAFETY AND  
WELLBEING



The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD,  
and you give them their food in due season.  
You open wide your hand  
and satisfy the needs of every living creature.

*Psalm 145:16-17*



## THEMES FOR OFFERING THANKS

- **We give thanks for who God is.** Do we know God's name and attributes? Grateful hearts do.
- **We give thanks for what God does.** Do we know God's works – what God is doing? Thankful hearts are remembering hearts.
- **We give thanks vocally.** Can anyone else hear your thanks? They should.
- **We give thanks wholeheartedly.** Does our gratitude flow from our inward being? A Spirit-filled heart overflows with thanks.
- **We give thanks corporately.** Do we gather with the saints to thank him corporately? God delights in people singing thanks together, and we sound a whole lot better together.
- **We give thanks actively.** Do we offer up our thanks to God not only with our lips, but in our lives? A thankful heart always leads to a changed life.
- **We give thanks evangelistically.** Do we express our thanks to God before those who do not believe? When they hear, they just might give thanks, too.
- **We give thanks eternally.** Are we consciously warming up to give thanks eternally? We might as well get started now!







- ❖ Ecumenical
- ❖ International
- ❖ Both urban and rural faith communities
- ❖ Focus on both environmental stewardship and the impacts of climate change
- ❖ Often in the early Autumn, but our summer season of abundance is also a good option here in Minnesota

A SEASON OF CREATION

## LITURGICAL MATERIALS FOR HONORING GOD IN CREATION

- Propers for Honoring God in Creation
- Prayers of the People Honoring God in Creation, Form 1
- Prayers of the People Honoring God in Creation, Form 2
- Prayers of the People Honoring God in Creation, Form 3 (on the theme of water)
- A Confession of Sin against God's Creation
- A Litany for the Planet
- A Rogation Day Procession and Liturgy
- Prayers for Rogation Days: A Rite for the Blessing of a Garden
- A Liturgy in Thanksgiving for Creation and in Honor of the Feast of St. Francis, with the Blessing of Animals
- Additional Readings and Resources for St. Francis Day







## COMMON WORSHIP

### *TIMES AND SEASONS*

Advent

Lent

Trinity to All Saints

Christmas

Passiontide and Holy  
Week

All Saints to Advent

Epiphany

Easter

The Agricultural Year

Consider the birds of the air; they do not sow or gather into barns, yet our heavenly Father feeds them.  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they do not toil nor spin, yet even Solomon in all his glory  
was not arrayed like one of these. Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

How little faith we have. Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness. Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**



An aerial photograph showing a vibrant yellow field on the left, a central row of green trees, and a green field on the right. The trees cast long shadows to the right.

## RESOURCES

### LITURGICAL MATERIALS FOR HONORING GOD IN CREATION

[https://www.episcopalchurch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/11/liturgies\\_honoring\\_god\\_in\\_creation\\_sclm.pdf](https://www.episcopalchurch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/11/liturgies_honoring_god_in_creation_sclm.pdf)

### COMMON WORSHIP: *TIMES AND SEASONS*

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/common-worship/churchs-year/times-and-seasons>

### CREATIONTIDE RESOURCES

<https://www.churchofengland.org/about/environment-and-climate-change/creationtide/creationtide-resources>

### RESOURCES FOR COMMON PRAYER (TEC)

<https://www.episcopalcommonprayer.org/>



God of Wisdom, we give you thanks for schools and classrooms and for the teachers and students who fill them each day. We thank you for this new beginning, for new books and new ideas. We thank you for sharpened pencils, pointy crayons, and crisp blank pages waiting to be filled. We thank you for the gift of making mistakes and trying again. Help us to remember that asking the right questions is often as important as giving the right answers. Today we give you thanks for these your children, and we ask you to bless them with curiosity, understanding and respect. May their backpacks be a sign to them that they have everything they need to learn and grow this year in school and in Sunday School. May they be guided by your love. All this we ask in the name of Jesus, who as a child in the temple showed his longing to learn about you, and as an adult taught by story and example your great love for us. Amen.

*From St. Bartholomew's Church, NYC*

## USE YOUR IMAGINATION (AND THE INTERNET)







ECMN

Episcopal Church in Minnesota