

The Diocesan Environment Working Group in the Diocese of Sheffield now have a Theology subgroup. Members have collated resources for Creationtide 2024 which are available on the diocesan website.

The prayers in this document were written by Church of England bishops for World Environment Day and are on the CofE website [here](#). They are also suitable for Creationtide and have been organised as collects under headings by Revd Peter Das, a local curate and member of the Theology group.

COLLECTS

I.

Celebratory/commending God's creation

Everlasting God

whose Spirit broods everlastingly over the lands and the waters,
and endows them with form and colour:

give us, we pray, the mind and heart

to rejoice in the majesty of creation.

Teach us to be responsible stewards of this world

and to seek the common good,

that through your blessing all may flourish,

and creation sing your praise

in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

*The Rt Revd Robert Atwell
Bishop of Exeter and Chair of the Liturgical Commission*

God of life,

we praise you for the beauty of creation,

its richness and variety;

yet, through greed and ignorance,

we scar your world with plastic waste

and throw so much away.

Make us more like Jesus,

treading gently on our common home,

and breathe your Spirit on us,

that we may care more deeply for your Earth.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*The Rt Revd Graham Usher
Bishop of Norwich and Lead Bishop on the Environment*

II.

Remembering stewardship

Heavenly Father,
You have taught us, through your servant St Francis,
That all creation is your handiwork.
Grant us your grace that we may
Exercise wise stewardship of this Earth;
Tread lightly upon it;
And cherish its resources;
That our children may enjoy its riches, throughout all generations,
And your name be glorified through all that you have made.

Amen.

*The Rt Revd David Walker
Bishop of Manchester*

III.

Penitential/absolution

Eternal God,
whose Spirit moved over the face of the deep bringing forth light and life;
by that same Spirit, renew your creation, and restore your image in your
people.
Turn us from careless tenants to faithful stewards,
that your threefold blessing of clean air, pure water and rich earth
may be the inheritance of everything that has the breath of life
and one generation may proclaim to another the wonder of your works;
through Jesus Christ, your living Word,
in whom the fullness of your glory is revealed.

Amen.

*The Rt Revd Libby Lane
Bishop of Derby*

IV.
Closing collects

Lord Jesus,
the earth is yours and you have commanded the winds and the sea;
help us to leave behind our consumer demand for plastics and move
towards behaviours that are environmentally healthy;
help us to follow your lead in caring for the world you love.

Amen.

*The Rt Revd David Urquhart
Former Bishop of Birmingham*

God of creation,
who loves all he has made and all that has evolved,
open the eyes of your people,
that your love might be reflected in our care for the planet.
Through Jesus Christ, who walked this earth and calls us by name.

Amen.

*The Rt Revd Nicholas Baines
Bishop of Leeds*

Creator God,
Thank you for the waters of the earth,
for the life-sustaining rains,
lakes, and deep oceans.
Keep us mindful of how precious these are,
and how vulnerable they are.
Help us to work together for clean water,
and for the sharing of it with those who have need of it today.

Amen.

*The Rt Revd Christine Hardman
Former Bishop of Newcastle*