

# ECO-PRAYER

## 4 October - St Francis of Assisi

### Preparation

*Stand*

O God, make speed to save us.  
**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Fill us with the knowledge of your will  
**that we may bear fruit in every good work.**



Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain,  
Wheat- that in dark earth many days has lain;  
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:  
*Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.*

2 In the grave they laid him, Love whom we had slain,  
Thin-king that never he would wake again,  
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:  
*Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.*

3 Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,  
He- that for three days in the grave had lain;  
Quick from the dead, my risen Lord is seen:  
*Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.*

4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving or in pain,  
Thy- touch can call us back to life again;  
Fields of our hearts, that dead and bare have been:  
*Love is come again, like wheat that springeth green.*

Words: JMC Crum (1872-1958)

Tune: NOEL NOUVELET

NEH 115

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,  
*[etc...]*  
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**Blessed be God forever.**

*Sit*

# The Word of God

## **Psalmody**    *Psalm 65.1,8-13*

Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion;  
to you that answer prayer shall vows be paid.

**You visit the earth and water it;  
you make it very plenteous.**

The river of God is full of water;  
you prepare grain for your people, for so you provide for the earth.

**You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;  
you soften the ground with showers and bless its increase.**

You crown the year with your goodness,  
and your paths overflow with plenty.

**May the pastures of the wilderness flow with goodness  
and the hills be girded with joy.**

May the meadows be clothed with flocks of sheep  
and the valleys stand so thick with corn that they shall laugh and sing.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

## **Reading**        *1 Timothy 6.7-10, 17-19*

*Stand*

## **Responsory**

O Lord, how manifold are your works!  
**In wisdom you have made them all;  
the earth is full of your creatures.**

You are worthy, our Lord and God,  
to receive glory and honour and power.  
**O Lord, how manifold are your works!**

For you created all things,  
and by your will they existed and were created.  
**In wisdom you have made them all;  
the earth is full of your creatures.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit.

**O Lord, how manifold are your works!  
In wisdom you have made them all;  
the earth is full of your creatures.**

*Psalm 104.26; Revelation 4.11*

*Remain standing*

## **Canticle**

*A Song of Francis of Assisi*

Most High, all powerful, good Lord,  
to you be praise, glory, honour and all blessing.

**Only to you, Most High, do they belong  
and no one is worthy to call upon your name.**

May you be praised, my Lord, with all your creatures,  
especially brother sun,  
through whom you lighten the day for us.

**He is beautiful and radiant with great splendour;  
he signifies you, O Most High.**

Be praised, my Lord, for sister moon and the stars:  
clear and precious and lovely, they are formed in heaven.

**Be praised, my Lord, for brother wind;  
for air and clouds, clear skies and all weathers,  
by which you give sustenance to your creatures.**

Be praised, my Lord, for sister water,  
who is very useful and humble and precious and pure.

**Be praised, my Lord, for brother fire,  
by whom the night is illumined for us:  
he is beautiful and cheerful, full of power and strength.**

Be praised, my Lord, for our sister, mother earth,  
who sustains and governs us  
and produces diverse fruits and coloured flowers and grass.

**Be praised, my Lord, by all those who forgive for love of you  
and who bear weakness and tribulation.**

Blessed are those who bear them in peace:  
for you, Most High, they will be crowned.

**Be praised, my Lord, for our sister, the death of the body,  
from which no one living is able to flee;  
woe to those who are dying in mortal sin.**

Blessed are those who are found doing your most holy will,  
for the second death will do them no harm.

**Praise and bless my Lord and give him thanks  
and serve him with great humility.**

*Sit or kneel*

# Prayers

*ending with The Lord's Prayer*

*The choir sings an anthem*

*Stand*

## Act of Eco-Commitment

*Introduction...*

Let us pray.

**Lord God,  
the earth is yours and all that is in it,  
the world, and those who live in it;  
hear our prayer, accept our service and receive our pledge:**

*Psalm 24.1*

*worship... church buildings... land... local/global communities... lives...*

*Response:*        **for the earth is yours and all that is in it.**

**Lord God,  
we pledge ourselves to your service in caring for your creation,  
that your kingdom may grow from the seed of hope  
into a tree of righteousness and justice for the world,  
and the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay  
and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

*Romans 8.21*

## The Conclusion

May Christ abide in us that we may bear much fruit. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**