

## **Intercessory Prayers for Personal and Church use in Creation Time 2014**

### **SET I**

Let us pray for farmers who sow crops and tend animals with care to produce food for all. We remember especially farmers who struggle with the effects of climate change.

Lord hear us.

Response: Lord graciously hear us.

Let us thank God for the whole value system in the family farm where children grow up in touch with the earth and its generous nourishing capacity, mirroring the very bountifulness of God. Let us strive to ensure that all children have some contact with the earth and its growing potential.

Lord hear us.

Response: Lord graciously hear us.

We pray for the future of family farming in the world where big business is taking over the production of food in many countries.

Lord hear us.

Response: Lord graciously hear us.

Through the work of the family farmers, may we appreciate anew the value of fresh produce, both for the taste of the good earth which it holds and for the health benefits it offers.

Lord hear us.

Response: Lord graciously hear us.

We pray for allotments, small organic enterprises and community gardens where people care for the earth in a sustainable way, provide local produce and build community together.

Lord hear us.

Response: Lord graciously hear us.

Let us pray for the millions of women all over the world who support and feed their families through their own manual work on small family farms. May the earth yield its fruit in abundance to them.

Lord hear us.

Response: Lord graciously hear us.

We pray that governments throughout the world will encourage the continuation and development of family farms by their policies, rather than overly supporting big businesses which farm on an industrial scale with little respect for the natural cycles of the earth.

Lord hear us.

Response: Lord graciously hear us.

Priest/Minister/Leader

Let us pray

Most provident God, You graciously give us all good gifts. Teach us to care for the earth; to till the soil responsibly, to keep our air pure, to free our waters from pollution, to harvest the warmth of the sun and to respect the rights of all species. May we willingly share the gifts of your goodness with all. We ask this of You, God of the Universe, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SET 2

We pray for those prophetic people in our world who have put their lives at risk to protect sustainable livelihoods and the well-being of small farmers worldwide.

O God hear us, we pray.

Response: God give us your love for the whole of creation.

Through scientists and researchers, new knowledge comes to light; may it reduce the degradation of fertile land and help farmers who work in difficult weather conditions.

O God hear us, we pray.

Response: God give us your love for the whole of creation.

We pray for the environmentalists, recyclers, and those who till, care for and harvest the fruits of the earth. May they be supported in their efforts to preserve the earth for future generations so that the harvest of our land yields enough for all.

O God hear us, we pray.

Response: God give us your love for the whole of creation.

We give thanks for the bounteous earth which gives 'food in due season'. Help us to respect the seasons in our choice of food, accepting what the earth brings forth naturally in each season.

O God hear us, we pray.

Response: God give us your love for the whole of creation.

Compassionate God, we pray for courage and perseverance for individuals, communities, agencies and organisations throughout the world working for justice for family farmers.

O God hear us, we pray.

Response: God give us your love for the whole of creation.

Priest/Minister/Leader

Let us pray

O God, You created all things great and small, your care extends to all. Help us to see your presence everywhere. Teach us to live responsibly, sharing the gifts of the earth with satisfaction and joy. Grant this through Jesus, your Word of Life, who teaches us the way. Amen.

Priest/Minister/Leader

Let us pray

Most gracious God, who gives the fruits of the earth for the benefit of all your creatures, we give thanks to You for abundant harvests and plentiful food. We pray for those who are denied these gifts and we seek your forgiveness for our part in their want. We pray for those whose voices are not heard and for those who do not hear. Forgive us when our choices are selfish ones and when we ignore the need for sustainability in our relations with the natural world. We ask this of You, Creator Spirit, through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Priest/Minister/Leader

Let us pray

Lord we pray for church leaders throughout the world especially in their mission to promote the integrity of creation, justice and peace. May they work to transform unjust structures affecting family farmers. Bring churches together to work in unity so that food from farms and gardens may be available to all people and all creatures for today and for future generations. We ask this of You, Creator God, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*See also Creation Time prayers prepared in previous years by clicking [here](#)*