

SPARK NOTES



PEACE WITH CREATION **SEASON OF CREATION 2025**

Garden of Peace Isaiah 32:14-18

The Season of Creation is almost here — a sacred time to renew our relationship with God and all of creation through prayer, action, and community.

From September 1 (World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation) to October 4 (Feast of St. Francis of Assisi), Christians worldwide unite to celebrate, reflect, and commit to caring for our shared home.

Let us remember that humanity was originally called to tend a garden. Through this year's Season of Creation, we will reflect on the connection between caring for creation and fostering peace.

Throughout history, many human activities have contributed to the destruction of Creation. Yet today, more than ever, some human activities take the form of a war against Creation. Our impact has expanded from local to global, manifesting in unsustainable lifestyles, excessive consumption, lasting pollution, and a throwaway culture.

"We acknowledge the urgent call to action, and we acknowledge that we can only respond to it on the basis of faith. The Season of Creation is a source of strength and communion."

> Rev. Dr. Anne Burghardt, General Secretary, Lutheran World Federation

Pope Francis challenges us: "What is the goal of our work? What need does the Earth have of us? Leaving an inhabitable planet to future generations is up to us" (Laudato Si', 160).

Creation is God's sacred gift, entrusted to our care. Christians are called to protect and nurture Creation in peace, working in partnership with others and passing this responsibility on to future generations. Its deep interconnectedness makes peace both essential and fragile.

Our planet is at risk. Learn what's at stake and what you can do by watching these short YouTube videos.

What Earth in 2050 Could Look Like



Climate Change - Why Should We Care



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Creator of all,

We praise you for the gift of life and for the faith that unites us in care for our common home.

We confess how estranged we have become from one another, from your Creation, and from our truest selves.

We acknowledge that our greed and destructive impulses have fractured our relationships with you, with others, and with the Earth.

Fertile fields have become barren, forests lie desolate, oceans and rivers are polluted.

Thriving communities have become places of suffering, and Earth cries out.

May we come together as one family, to labor for your peace—
a shalom where all your people may dwell in safety, and rest in quiet places.

Amen

Did you know?

17% of the world's population consumes 80% of the world's resources, leaving almost 5 billion people to live on the remaining 20%. As a result, billions of people are living without the very basic necessities of life – food, water, housing, and sanitation.

Over 8 million people die each year from air pollution – more than from smoking.

The rate of Antarctic ice loss is 5 times what it was 20 years ago. Yet, renewable energy is now the fastest-growing power source worldwide, offering hope for a cleaner, more sustainable future.



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CELEBRATION GUIDE!