



MERCY
GLOBAL
PRESENCE

Mercy Global Presence

Month One: *COSMOS*



The Helix or "Eye of God" Nebula

Dance, creation, dance!

Dance with cosmic energy!

Gathering Hymn: A Creation hymn of your choosing

Suggestions from Youtube:

- ✓ ***For the Fruit of All Creation*** by Fred Pratt Green
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qtFd_aLkbKE
- ✓ ***We Dance for Life*** by Jan Novotka
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RwUICwnaAIQ>
- ✓ ***Sing Out, Earth and Sky*** by Marty Haugen
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bTYOglt9ab0>

Welcome to the Circle of Prayer

One: Risen Christ

All: Your presence fills the cosmos.

One: Cosmic Christ

**All: Your presence pulses through all galactic space
across light years of time.**

One: Living Christ

**All: In this nano-second we call 'now'
in this nano-space we call 'here'**

One: Make your presence felt among us.

All: Yes, make your presence felt!

One: We invite the cosmos to worship with us.

**All: We invite glittering galaxies high in the sky
to radiate the splendour of God's presence.**

One: We call distant domains of space to celebrate with us.

**All: We invite nebula, nova and black holes
to thank God for their fascinating formation.**

One: We summon that piece of stardust called Earth,

**All: To pulse with the rhythm of God's presence
and celebrate God's glory in this planet garden.**

One: We invite millions of living species to dance with life,

**All: The turtle, the toad and the elephant, the earthworm,
the ant and the dragonfly.**

One: We invite every creature in the web of creation

**All: To consciously connect with others
in this community called the cosmos.**

One: Dance, creation, dance!

All: Dance with cosmic energy!

[Adapted from a worship service on the seasonofcreation.com website]

Readings

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light.

Gen 1:1-2

Christ is the image of the invisible God, the first born of all creation.
Col 1:15

O Holy Spirit, you are the mighty way in which every thing that is in the heavens, on the earth, and under the earth, is penetrated with connectedness, penetrated with relatedness.

Hildegard

Mercy is the very heartbeat of God resonant in creation; the warmth that pulses through all things as the divine Mystery flows out into created form. ~

Cynthia Bourgeault

Practice of Meditation

The Buddhist meditation *maitri* flows from the belief that the quality of loving kindness is already within you, and you must practice it daily and deliberately.

- ✓ Begin by finding the place of loving kindness inside your heart (the indwelling Spirit)
- ✓ Drawing upon this source of love, bring to mind someone you deeply care about, and send loving kindness toward them.
- ✓ Now direct this love toward a casual friend or colleague, someone just beyond your inner circle.
- ✓ Continue drawing from your inner source of loving kindness and let it flow toward someone about whom you feel neutral or indifferent, a stranger.
- ✓ Remember someone who has hurt you or someone you struggle to like. Bless them. Send them your love.
- ✓ Gather all these people and yourself into the stream of love and hold them here for a few moments.
- ✓ Finally, let the flow of loving kindness widen to encompass all beings in the universe.

From Richard Rohr, OFM, Centre for Action and Contemplation, Saturday, November 4, 2017:
<https://cac.org/cosmology-weekly-summary-2017-11-04/>

Response: *This we believe*

This we believe. God creates all things,
renews all things and celebrates all things.
This we believe.

Earth is a sanctuary,
a sacred planet filled with God's presence
A home for us to share with our kin.
This we believe.

God became flesh and blood, a piece of Earth,
A human being called Jesus Christ,
who lived and breathed,
And spoke among us, suffered and died on a cross
For all human beings and for all creation.
This we believe.

The risen Jesus is the Christ at the centre of creation,
Reconciling all things to God,
Renewing all creation and filling the cosmos.
This we believe.

The Holy Spirit renews life in creation,
Groans in empathy with a suffering creation
And waits with us for the rebirth of creation.
This we believe.

We believe that, with Christ, we will rise
And, with Christ, we will celebrate a new creation.

~ Norman Habel, from *Live Simply* (CAFOD)

Closing Reflection:

Loving God, loving God,
all creation calls you blessed,
and so do we, and so do we.
Your spirit imprints the whole universe with life and mystery.
Yes, all creation proclaims your love.
We now join this chorus of praise.

For you have woven an intimate tapestry
and call it life and called it good.
In love you have formed a universe so diverse yet so related,
and into its web you call us forth
to walk the land and swim the sea
with all our natural brothers and sisters.
To the stars we seem no more than blades of grass.
Yet to you, each of us, as each blade of grass and each star,
is an irreplaceable treasure,
an essential companion on this journey of love.

Loving God, as you lure the whole world into salvation,
guide us with your Spirit
that we might not be only pilgrims on the earth,
but pilgrims with the earth, journeying home to you.

Open our hearts to understand the intimate relationship that you have with all
creation.
Only with this faith can we hope for tomorrow's children.
Amen. Alleluia!

Loving God, loving God, all creation calls you blessed,
and so do we, and so do we.

~ Source Unknown

