

Lord, make us people who recognise,
nurture and act towards a more
sustainable world for the benefit of
all who draw life from this planet.
Raise up campaigners who will speak
out for wisdom, restraint and
compassion. And teach us to partner
with you in protecting this precious
world and the lives of our most
vulnerable global neighbors.
Amen

Missional Serving Community **- Unit 3 -**

Week 1: *PRAY* see learn serve

Take some time to notice God's creation around you.
In small groups of 2-4 people, go for a short (5min) walk
and look around.

What do you see? What do you smell?
What do you feel? What do you hear?

In your small group, discuss all the things you notice that
God has made and what you like about it.

Feel free to use the space below to jot down some notes.

Choose 1-2 things to share with the larger group.

After each passage is read aloud, pause, and look around. Consider: **How is this scripture reflected in what you see around you?** Then take some time to respond in prayer.

Genesis 1:26-28 (The Message)

God spoke: "Let us make human beings in our image, make them reflecting our nature so they can be responsible for the fish in the sea, the birds in the air, the cattle, and, yes, Earth itself, and every animal that moves on the face of Earth."

God created human beings; he created them godlike, reflecting God's nature. He created them male and female.

God blessed them: "Prosper! Reproduce! Fill Earth! Take charge! Be responsible for fish in the sea and birds in the air, for every living thing that moves on the face of Earth."

Jeremiah 32:17

"Ah, Sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you."

John 1:1-4 (CEV)

In the beginning was the one who is called the Word. The Word was with God and was truly God. From the very beginning the Word was with God.

And with this Word, God created all things. Nothing was made without the Word. Everything that was created received its life from him, and his life gave light to everyone.

Romans 8:18-22 (CEV)

I am sure what we are suffering now cannot compare with the glory that will be shown to us. In fact, all creation is eagerly waiting for God to show who his children are. Meanwhile, creation is confused, but not because it wants to be confused. God made it this way in the hope that creation would be set free from decay and would share in the glorious freedom of his children. We know that all creation is still groaning and is in pain, like a woman about to give birth.

Psalms 104:10-15 (CEV)

You provide streams of water in the hills and valleys, so that the donkeys and other wild animals can satisfy their thirst. Birds build their nests nearby and sing in the trees. From your home above you send rain on the hills and water the earth. You let the earth produce grass for cattle, plants for our food, wine to cheer us up, olive oil for our skin, and grain for our health.

Psalms 148 (NLT)

Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD from the heavens! Praise him from the skies! Praise him, all his angels! Praise him, all the armies of heaven! Praise him, sun and moon! Praise him, all you twinkling stars! Praise him, skies above! Praise him, vapors high above the clouds! Let every created thing give praise to the LORD, for he issued his command, and they came into being.

He set them in place forever and ever.

His decree will never be revoked.

Praise the LORD from the earth, you creatures of the ocean depths, fire and hail, snow and clouds, wind and weather that obey him, mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars, wild animals and all livestock, small scurrying animals and birds, kings of the earth and all people, rulers and judges of the earth, young men and young women, old men and children.

Let them all praise the name of the LORD. For his name is very great; his glory towers over the earth and heaven!

He has made his people strong, honoring his faithful ones — the people of Israel who are close to him.

Praise the LORD!

Creator God, you reveal yourself to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, so as we gather in this place, come amongst us.

Help us to discern your Spirit in the world around us. Let us find joy in the world that you created. Help us to worship you with all our being, and to hear and receive your word and your gifts.

As we think about our local community and the glory of the natural world, may we respond to you in love for our neighbors and for your creation, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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Week 2: pray SEE learn serve

Lord, make us people who recognise, nurture and act towards a more sustainable world for the benefit of all who draw life from this planet. Raise up campaigners who will speak out for wisdom, restraint and compassion. And teach us to partner with you in protecting this precious world and the lives of our most vulnerable global neighbors.

Amen.

Creator God,
Bless the tear we shed for the
resources we have squandered.
Bless the sigh we breathe out for the
atmosphere.
Bless the head we hang for the
creatures lost and exploited.
Bless the hands we wring for the
things we have broken and wasted.
Bless us as we lament.
Cradle us as we regret.
Restore us as we start afresh. Amen.

- John Polhill

For our unwillingness to feel the suffering of others,
and our readiness to live comfortably with injustice.

Forgive us, O God.

For our self-righteousness that denies guilt, and our
self-interest that strangles compassion.

Forgive us, O God.

For our abuse of this planet and our exploitation of
its resources.

Forgive us, O God.

For our failings in community and our reticence to
become involved.

Forgive us, O God.

For the times we were too eager to be better than
others, when we were too rushed to care, when we
were too tired to bother, when we were too

preoccupied to listen,

when we were too quick to act out of motives other
than love.

Forgive us, O God.

May God forgive us, Christ renew us, and the Spirit
enable us to grow in love.

Amen.