Prayers for the celebration of creation

[At the start of the service, members of the congregation are invited to select a leaf from the basket of leaves.]

Psalm 24 NRSV

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; for he has founded it on the seas and established it on the rivers.

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place? Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully.

[Congregation is invited to join in a moment of silence, and take the time to examine their leaf and reflect on creation.]

Prayer of praise Prayers for Creationtide
(Credit: Diocese of Leeds)

Creator God

In bright light and dull darkness

In the energy of each day and the rest that comes with night

**We remember the goodness of God**

In the heavens high above our heads

In waters that run deep around the world

**We remember the goodness of God**

In solid land and flowing seas

In vivid flowers and fruit laden-trees

**We remember the goodness of God**

In the rising and setting of the sun and the cycles of the seasons

In the patterns of the shining stars

**We remember the goodness of God**

In oceans teeming with fish

In skies filled with birds

**We remember the goodness of God**

In a world filled with animal life

And in ourselves as human beings

**We remember the goodness of God**

And God looked and saw all that he had made, and indeed it was very, very good.

In rest and reflection, in wonder and worship

**We remember the goodness of God**

**Amen**

[Congregation is invited to bring their leaves forward to place in the shape of a cross]

Lord of Creation! Thank you for your amazing world all around us, for the amazing places we live and get to explore. Grant us wisdom in how we care for your creation and forgive us for when we have clearly not been good stewards. We pray for those who care passionately - young and old, people of faith and none - using their gifts and talents to make a difference. May each of us discover more of who you are as we care for the world around us.

**Amen.**