

PRAYERS ON WATER AND JUSTICE

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OPENING PRAYER: WATER THEME //

Creator God, whose Spirit moved over the face of the waters,
who gathers the seas into their places, and directs the courses of the rivers,
who sends rain upon the Earth that it should bring forth life;
we praise you for the gift of water.

Create in us such a sense of wonder and delight in this and all your gifts,
that we might receive them with gratitude, care for them with love,
and generously share them with all your creatures,
to the honour and glory of your holy name.

World Council of Churches Prayer Services

A PRAYER BY BRAZILIAN YOUNG PEOPLE //

O God of all youth, we pray to you:

We are young people, and we want to celebrate life!

We cry out against all that kills life:

Hunger, poverty, unemployment, sickness, repression, individualism, injustice.

We want to announce fullness of life:

Work, education, health, housing, bread for all.

We want communion, a world renewed.

We hope against hope.

With the Lord of history we want to make all things new.

From With All God's People: The New Ecumenical Prayer Cycle
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PRAYER OF WATER //

"Be praised my God for Sister Water who is useful, humble, precious and pure"

(Canticle of the Creatures, St. Francis of Assisi.)

As St. Francis prayed in great gratitude for Sister Water,
we pray in thanksgiving for her life sustaining generosity.

Oh compassionate God, Creator who breathed over the waters
we seek forgiveness for our mindless use of water.
We beg for wisdom to know how to conserve and cherish water.

We ask healing for the ways that we disrespect and contaminate our sister.
We wait and watch for the gift of rain upon Earth.
We watch and wait for the rain of grace into our souls.

Come free us from hatred, greed, fear, and our lack of love for your gifts upon Earth.
Transform us into living streams of water,
flowing green and moist with life, hope and love for Earth and all peoples.

We pray this prayer in the name of God who is gracious Creator, Jesus who is
Eternal Word and Spirit who is Wellspring of Wisdom. Amen.

Joan Brown, osf, Ecological Ministry of the Social Justice Office,
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May the blessing of God
Fountain of Living Water
Flow within us as a river of life.
May we drink deep of God's wisdom
May we go through life refreshing many
As a sign of healing for all.
Through the One who is Life Eternal. AMEN

Miriam Therese Winter, Womanprayer, WomanSong