



# TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

*The firstfruits of hope*  
(Rom 8:19-25)

[www.seasonofcreation.org](http://www.seasonofcreation.org)  
[www.catholicclimatecovenant.org](http://www.catholicclimatecovenant.org)  
[www.laudatosi.org](http://www.laudatosi.org)

**The Season of Creation** is the annual Christian celebration, inviting us to pray and respond together to the cry of Creation, as the ecumenical family around the world unites to listen and care for our common home. The celebration begins on September 1<sup>st</sup> and concludes on October 4<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology.

The theme for this year is “**To Hope and Act with Creation**” and the symbol is “**The Firstfruits of Hope**,” inspired by Romans 8:19-25, which pictures the Earth as Mother, groaning as in childbirth. The times we live in show that we are not relating to the Earth as a gift from our Creator, but rather as a resource to be used and exploited. Creation is “groaning” because of our selfishness and our unsustainable actions that harm her. Along with our sister, Mother Earth, creatures of all kinds, including humans, cry out because of our destructive actions causing climate crisis, loss of biodiversity and suffering.

And yet Creation teaches us that hope is present in the waiting, in the expectation for a better future. Creation and all of us are called to worship our Creator and to work together for a future of active hope and action to create a more sustainable and regenerative planet home.

In hope, may this **Season of Creation** renew and unite us by our one baptism and our call to care for our common home.

Pope Francis’s invitation to the September 1st “**World Day of Prayer for Care of Creation 2024**” can be viewed on YouTube.



Only when we work together with  
Creation can the **firstfruits of hope**  
be born.

## Season of Creation Prayer



Triune God, Creator of all,  
we praise you for your goodness,  
visible in all the diversity that you have created,  
making us a cosmic family living in a common home.  
Through the Earth you created  
we experience love and nourishment, home and protection.

We confess that we do not relate to the Earth  
as a Mothering gift from you, our Creator.  
Our selfishness, greed, neglect and abuse have caused the climate crisis,  
loss of biodiversity, human suffering,  
as well as suffering of all our fellow creatures.  
We confess we have failed to listen to the groans of the Earth,  
the groans of all creatures,  
and the groans of the spirit of hope and justice that lives within us.

May your Creator Spirit help us in our weakness,  
so that we may know the redeeming power of Christ  
and the hope found in him.

May the groans of the Spirit birth in us  
a willingness to serve you faithfully,  
so that we may hear and heal creation,  
to hope and act with her,  
so that the firstfruits of hope may blossom.

Loving and Creator God,  
We pray that you will make us sensitive to these  
groans and enable us to have the same compassion  
as that of Jesus, the redeeming Lord.  
Grant us a fresh vision of our relationship with the  
Earth, and with one another,  
as creatures that are made in your image.

In the name of the one who came to proclaim  
the good news to all Creation, Jesus Christ. Amen!

