

Prayers for our world and all God's creatures



Led by: _____

Join me in a prayer for our world.

Creator God, for your creation, we give you thanks. We hear the hum of tiny insect wings, the skitter of insect legs and even the slither of the snake or the slug – we admit that sometimes these things scare us, repulse us and just plain freak us out. But we know they are part of our planet's delicate balance and we give thanks for creation's diversity and richness.

All things bright and beautiful,

God, made them one and all!

We hear the chirps and trills of the song birds; the predatory cry of the kite and falcon and the sometimes annoying caw of the jackdaw and the crow. We may find some creature habits annoying, but we marvel at their ability to fly freely.

All things bright and beautiful,

God, made them one and all!

We hear the soft rustle of rabbits, badgers and squirrels in the bushes and leaves. We find them all cute from a distance but they often annoy us as they encroach on our lawns, gardens and chimneys. But we know they are part of your plan for creation.

All things bright and beautiful,

God, made them one and all!

We hear the thundering hoofs, howls and screams of animals being hunted for sport. We remain ignorant of animals being warehoused for meat. We know that even the most wild and threatening and the most docile farmed beasts are part of our planet's delicate balance.

All things bright and beautiful,

God, made them one and all!

We listen for the animal sounds that have vanished, and ask for your forgiveness for our role in their demise. For all the times we have hurt or neglected animals, or used poisons that have harmed them, or destroyed their homes in the forests, oceans, and fields. We are sorry.

All things bright and beautiful,

God, made them one and all!

God, our Creator, we listen and hear your voice in the crow's cry and the cat's purr, in the elephant's bellow and the donkey's bray. Help us to love all creatures as our kin, all animals as our partners on Earth, all birds as messengers of praise, all frogs as voices of hope, and all small beings as expressions of your mysterious design.

Amen.

Words of Assurance

Whether dog lovers, cat lovers, horse lovers, hamster lovers, or not lovers of animals, we surely belong to one another in the peace and unity of God. In that peace and through that world-wide unity we are made whole, healed, and forgiven. Thanks be to God.
Amen!