

NEWMAN VOLUNTEER CORPS

# PRAYER WALK

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## *Care for Creation*

### LET US BEGIN IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, THE SON, AND THE HOLY SPIRIT

#### Opening Prayer:

O Creator,  
Our world is large, and yet your Creation is so fragile.  
We glimpse the needs of our common home, of our sisters and brothers,  
and those needs are great.  
We want to turn away, but you call us back.  
We want simple solutions,  
but you want us to help solve the complex problems.  
Through your Church, you call us to listen, to learn, to reflect and to act.  
Give us a deep sense of our place in this web of Creation.  
Give us the wisdom of mind and generosity of heart to seek your will in the world  
today.  
Inspire us to respond to the call to live in solidarity with all of your Creation,  
so that the Earth, and all children of God might live in dignity and peace.  
Amen.

#### **JOB 12:7-10**

"Ask the animals, and they will teach you, or the birds of the air, and they will tell you; or speak to the earth,  
and it will teach you, or let the fish of the sea inform you. Which of these does not know that the hand of the  
Lord has done this? In his hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all  
mankind."

#### **POPE FRANCIS**

"God worked in Creation and gave us the responsibility to carry forward this task,  
not by destroying it, but by helping it grow, caring for it, being custodians, and  
helping it bear fruit".

## REFLECTION

Where do you see God on your walk? Do you often think about God in creation?

Look at the sky - are there birds, clouds, bugs? See how the sky continues, it is never ending. God knows every single parcel of air.

Look at the ground - see how many individual blades of grass there are? God knows how deep the Earth is.

Look around you - are there trees, houses, flowers? See how many branches there are on the tree - how each and every branch and leaf is different. God knows every single branch on every single tree.

The Earth is vast and large. God created every tiny spec perfectly for us in love. Take a moment to thank God for creating such a beautiful world.

In our world today, we are faced with an urgent challenge to protect our common home. Together we can seek a sustainable and integral development in building a better future. The environmental crisis is upon us and as shepherds of God we are called to care for what he has created for us.

## JAMES 1: 22-25

“Be doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his own face in a mirror. He sees himself, then goes off and promptly forgets what he looked like. But the one who peers into the perfect law of freedom and perseveres, and is not a hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, such a one shall be blessed in what he does.”

## READING - ISIAH 55:12

“You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.”  
(Isaiah 55:12)

## CLOSING PRAYER

O God, your creative love brought forth our world,  
Once a garden where humans could taste and see beauty and goodness.  
But our eyes do not always see the sacredness of Creation.  
We do not always remember that it is Gift  
Given so that all humans may live and flourish.  
Inattention can change the world.  
Even mighty glaciers weep now.  
Lifestyles create pollution that blot out the sun.  
The very skies above us are threatened.  
Seas rise and whole peoples lose their homes.  
O God, we ask you to  
Call us to renewal and to stewardship.  
Call us to solidarity with the earth and all its creatures.  
Give us new vision to see the fragile beauty that remains with us.  
Give us new spiritual energy to become active in loving the world  
through our daily lives,  
Give us new voices to speak out for environmental solidarity.  
Bless us with a love of your Creation  
So that we may glimpse your Eden once again  
Amen.

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.