



Streams of Justice

Earth Day
April 22, 2014



“The earth is
the Lord’s”

"Earthrise" was photographed by astronaut William Anders on Christmas Eve, 1968, as Apollo 8 orbited the moon. The planet rises above the moon's surface, a blue marbled jewel hanging in the velvet darkness of space. The "most influential environmental photo ever taken"¹ inspired the first Earth Day on April 22, 1970.

In 1990, Canadians joined 200 million people in 141 nations in celebrating the first International Earth Day. Earth Day motivates action on local and global environmental concerns.

As God's people, we proclaim, "The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world and those who live in it" (Psalm 24:1). *Living Faith* says "We hold in reverence the whole creation as the theatre of God's glory and action. . . . Our stewardship calls us to explore ways of love and justice in respecting God's creation and in seeking its responsible use for the common good"(LF 2.1.2; 2.4.2).

We are an Easter people. Let us live according to the promise and hope of abundant life for all and the fulfillment of creation in God, the Creator and Sustainer of the universe.

¹Galen Rowell in Life's 100 Photographs that Changed the World.



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Prayer for the earth

Leader: Creator God, you made the heavens and earth and called them good.

All: The earth is yours, and all that is in it. We praise you.

Leader: Redeemer God, you call us to good stewardship of your creation.

All: Resurrect us from our failures and breathe new life into our efforts.

Leader: Sustainer God, you want us to share your abundance with all.

All: The world is yours, and those who live in it. Fill us with your generosity and compassion.

Leader: Sovereign God, you raised Jesus from death to life, beginning the new creation.

All: So make us new in Christ to live with courage and hope, loving you and our neighbour, caring for all you have made. Amen.

*Written by Rev. E.M. Iona MacLean,
minister at First Presbyterian Church in Pictou, Nova Scotia.*

Justice Ministries
The Presbyterian Church in Canada
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