

Get more out of the message



Creation Calls

Do you hear creation's call?

In this four-week series, we'll explore how Scripture invites us to see nature not just as beautiful, but as a vibrant witness to the glory of God. Join us as we learn to encounter the Creator through His creation and embrace simple, soul-renewing practices that help us connect with Him.

WATCH: [YouTube](#) or [Website](#)

PLAYLISTS

Sing along with creation

Listen to our [Creation Calls Playlist](#)! We pray these songs stir our hearts to sing along with creation in praising our Maker!

A fun bonus this month: [a playlist for young families and children](#)! We pray these songs help little hearts know God as Creator, Christ as Savior and bring joy!

THINGS TO READ

For further reading and reflection

Scriptures

- Psalm 19
- Romans 1:20
- Job 12:7-10
- Psalm 104
- Psalm 8
- Colossians 1:15-23
- Psalm 23
- Psalm 65:9-13
- Matthew 6:26
- Lamentations 3:23
- Psalm 33:6-9

Books

- *Nature's Case for God* by John Frame
- *Awe* by Paul David Tripp
- *Nature as Spiritual Practice* by Steven Chase

Articles

- [4 Things Creation Teaches Us About God](#)
- [Rediscovering God's Grandeur in Nature](#)
- [Nature is Anything but Natural](#)
- [Natural Revelation](#)
- [The Doctrine of Creation](#)
- [Why the leaves are loudest just before they die](#)
- [A Reflection: The Fruits of Resurrection by St. Clement of Rome](#)

LISTEN TO THESE

Slow down and listen

Podcasts

- [The Healing Gift of Nature](#) by Mark Buchanan & Nathan Foster
- [Helping Kids See God's Glory in Nature](#) by Jim Daly & Eryn Lynum - recommended for all, not just children!
- [How does delight in God Fuel Delight in Creation?](#) by John Piper

Art Reflection

- [Silent Witness & Higher Ground](#) by Joni Eareckson Tada

DEVOTIONALS

Ground yourself in Scripture

[God of Wonders Devotional](#)

Five Lessons from nature for teaching your child who God is and how He loves them.

[God's Pleasure in Creation: Devotions with John Piper](#)

God created all that is. He rejoices in his works and wants us to be stunned by them, but not for their sake. In this three-day devotional, John Piper explains how creation points us beyond itself to God.

[God in the Beauty of Nature: Abide Meditation](#)

How has God revealed Himself through nature? Nature reveals to us God's glory, power, wisdom, presence, creativity and, most of all, His loving care for us. Join us in this Abide plan as we pray and meditate on God in the beauty of His creation.

[A Devotional on Communing with God through Nature by George Washington Carver](#)

"As soon as you begin to read the great and loving God out of all forms of existence He has created, both animate and inanimate, then you will be able to converse with Him, anywhere, everywhere, and at all times. Oh, what a fullness of joy will come to you...God is speaking..."

JOURNALING QUESTIONS

Reflect on God's voice in creation

1. Think about a time you were awed by something in nature. How did that experience remind you of God's Glory? What Scripture comes to mind when you recall that moment?
2. Reflect on a small detail in creation (e.g., a flower, bird, breeze). How might that detail affirm God's care for even the smallest things—and for you?
3. What insights can you gain from Jesus's relationship with nature? (See Mark 4:39, Luke 5:16, Mark 1:35.)
4. What aspects of nature tend to remind you of God's attributes (power, beauty, sovereignty, mercy, etc.)? Which attribute of God do you need to be reminded of today?
5. Read Romans 8:22. Where do you see signs of brokenness in creation? How does this echo the hope and ache in your own heart for redemption?
6. How often do you pause to admire the beauty of creation and thank God for it? What might your answer reveal about the rhythms and priorities of your heart?

PRAYER

Connect your heart with creation

PRAYER PROMPTS

Week 1: Creation Reminds (Matthew 6)

Look at the birds of the air...Consider the lilies of the field...

Pray: Father, as I look to the birds and the flowers, I can see Your loving care for creation. You know my needs before I even ask. Help me to live confidently in the truth that You are my Provider.

- Spirit, show me what worries I am carrying this week.
- Father, reveal to me any areas that I am not trusting you as my Provider and Sustainer.
- Jesus, help me to believe in your deep care and love for me. Open my eyes to see all the ways you provide for my every need.

Week 2: Creation Invites Awe (Psalm 65)

You answer us with awesome and righteous deeds, God our Savior...who formed the mountains by your power...who stilled the roaring of the seas...

Pray: Father, as I dwell on your glory displayed in creation, I see your power and mercy. Open my eyes to be in greater awe of who you are. Grow in me a heart that is amazed by the works of your hands and further, trusts in your heart all the more.

- Spirit, impress upon my heart the importance of slowing down and enjoying YOU in creation.
- Father, as I see your characteristics on display in creation, help me remember who you have been to me in my story!
- Jesus, I am in awe that you would die for my sins and rise again so that I could have life everlasting! As I am in awe of Your creation, let my heart turn to rejoicing you for your redeeming work.

Week 3: Creation Invites Contemplation (Psalm 8)

"When I look at the heavens, the work of Your fingers... what is man that You are mindful of him?"

Pray: God, you are so big and mighty! You care for the whole of creation and still you think of me. Help me to know your heart more each day as I turn my eyes to you.

- Father, it is so easy for me to feel small and overwhelmed. When my thoughts run wild, remind my heart to be in awe of your sovereignty and not turn inward to anxiety.
- Spirit, as I go about my day and all the tasks you have set before me, remind me that you are thinking of me. Help me slow down and remember this truth.
- Jesus, thank You for remembering me in Your love, even while I was still a sinner (Romans 5:8). Teach me to respond to Your grace with a heart full of gratitude and trust.

Week 4: Creation Invites Gratitude (Psalm 104)

"The earth is full of Your creatures...You open Your hand, and they are filled with good things."

Pray: Lord, your generosity fills the earth—every tree, river and creature depends on You. Gracious Father, thank You for all You've given me—seen and unseen. Let gratitude reshape my heart and make me more aware of the ways You sustain me daily.

- Spirit, I thank you for all the wonderful gifts you have given me today: name gifts you have experienced today (good food, sunshine, hearing the birds, etc.)
- Father, make me more aware of your good gifts in my life. Open my eyes to see how you are giving me all that I need.
- Jesus, thank you for giving me the ultimate gift: eternal life with YOU!

WRITTEN PRAYERS

From the Book of Common Prayer:

For Joy in God's Creation:

O heavenly Father, who has filled the world with beauty:
Open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works;
that, rejoicing in your whole creation, we may learn to serve
you with gladness; for the sake of him through whom all
things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Knowledge of God's Creation:

Almighty and everlasting God, you made the universe with
all its marvelous order, its atoms, worlds, and galaxies, and
the infinite complexity of living creatures: Grant that, as we
probe the mysteries of your creation, we may come to know
you more truly, and more surely fulfill our role in your
eternal purpose; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Excerpts from Every Moment Holy:

A Liturgy for Sunsets:

Our Father, You have infused your created order
with an inexplicable beauty
that is inseparable from
the expression of your nature.
Open our hearts therefore,
to the work of your beauty
cast on the canvas of the sky,
to the echoes of your glory
written upon this your creation.
May this meditation upon your glories not leave us unmoved.
May the patterns of your eternal beauties be fixed in our souls, O Lord.
That the lives we live and the words we speak
might hereafter be infused with a grace
that would show forth your beauty.
Our hearts and our lives are your canvas, O Spirit of God.
We give them to you.
Amen.

A Liturgy for Stargazing:

How fathomless the thoughts of
the One who named and remembers each
burning star, and who also names and
remembers each of us.
In such holy wonders,
baptize our imaginations,
that we might ever be
a people shaped by awe

at your eternal power,
and a people moved to worship
by revelations of your divine nature.
Use these bright expressions
of your extravagant beauty
to stoke our holy longings,
whetting our appetites afresh
for all that is eternal and good.
You made this vastness,
and by your love you placed us in it,
fixed amongst the wonders.
So let us be stirred, O Lord,
by night skies such as these,
lifting our thoughts to you, our Maker,
and to the vast
and beautiful infinitude
of your designs.
O Spirit of God, draw praise from us,
here in this cathedral of creation,
beneath this starry dome.
Awaken our adoration in this place
where we are so very small—
and yet so very loved.
Amen.

Looking for more prayer opportunities?

Click [here](#) to be notified about ongoing DCC prayer needs.

Click [here](#) to send in a prayer request.

LIVE IT OUT

Respond to creation's call

Practices

- [Prayer](#)
- [Gratitude](#)
- [Solitude/Silence](#)
- [Unplugging](#)

Activities

- Take part in our 28-Day Nature Challenge! If you want to see the daily creation prompts each day on social media, join your campus' Facebook group where we'll post them: [Sprecher Road](#), [DeForest](#), [Northside Madison](#). If you want a hard copy of all of the prompts, you can grab one as you leave service this Sunday, or find it on the Resource Wall at your campus.
- Attend one or all three events in our own [DCC Triathlon!](#)

- Take a prayer walk in nature. Whether alone or with a friend, walk slowly, taking in the wonder of creation around you. Thank God for His sustaining hand seen in nature and in your life. As you see how He provides for every living thing, lift your requests to Him as you trust that He cares for you (1 Peter 5:7). Don't worry if you aren't praying the whole time, let yourself be still in the presence of Our Father in His creation (Psalm 46:10).
- Now this one isn't just for children, but they may enjoy it most! Go on a nature walk with children/others and sing the song, "He's Got the Whole World In His Hands." If you don't know it, give it a quick Google; it's very simple! As you admire things in nature, put them into the song. For example, "He's got the trees and the leaves in His hands, He's got the birds and the squirrels in His hands, etc." As you finish, sing, "He's got our past and our future in His hands" to remind your own heart of the great and caring hands that hold your life. Thanks be to God!

"Every gift is from above to take our thoughts and thanks above. God's gifts are to lift up our faces to His, to awaken us to love Him...The birds and flowers are His appeal to trust; the stately order of the heavens, to symmetry and steadiness; the beauty of nature, to the beauty of holiness; the affections of earth, to the perfect love of which they are but dear fragments. And God be thanked for his supreme appeal—that good and perfect gift, the gift unspeakable: His life, His love, His very self in Jesus Christ."

-Maltbie D. Babcock, writer of "This is My Father's World"