

Hymn to God: He who is present and dwells in our earth community.

Let us praise God; it is good that he hears our voice,
That we honor him and rejoice in his name.

Lord, you are the restorer of creation!
You call it back to a life in common,
Healing its brokenness
And binding up its wounds.

You decide the number of the stars
And give each of them a name.
Your presence is vast and overwhelming,
Yet filled with understanding.

Lord, you lift up those who are humble,
Those close to the earth and who rejoice in it.
You humble those who are wicked,
Those who with power destroy its commons.

Rejoice in God and give him thanks,
Shout for joy for he is the source of all life.

You cover the skies with clouds,
Provide the thirsty earth with rain,
Allow grass to grow on the hillsides where it did not seem possible,
And the plants to produce to meet the needs of humankind.
There is food for the cattle,
For the sheep and for the birds of the air.

The strength of the powerful mean nothing to you,
Their interests our not yours.
You are only interested in those who respect the dignity of life,
In those whose love is a sign of service.

We praise you Lord, for our earth community,
We give you thanks for the common household that you created for us.
We thank you for your strength,
For the blessing that is given to all forms of life,
For showing us the road to peace,
And that living in harmony with all creatures is possible.

Your word created us;
Your presence gives us order.
The snow blankets the earth
And the frost appears like ashes,

The ice forms
And the cold becomes unbearable,
But your presence Lord,
Brings the cold to a thaw
And in the morning, the sun gives us warmth and melts the snow.

(Adapted from Psalm 147)

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