

Prayer Vigil for the Care of Creation May 26, 2019

Bodhisattva Prayer for Humanity, - Shantideva, Indian Buddhist sage 700 CE Prayer performed each morning by His Holiness the Dalai Lama)

May I be a guard for those who need protection
A guide for those on the path
A boat, a raft, a bridge for those who wish to cross the flood
May I be a lamp in the darkness
A resting place for the weary
A healing medicine for all who are sick
A vase of plenty, a tree of miracles
And for the boundless multitudes of living beings
May I bring sustenance and awakening
Enduring like the earth and sky
Until all beings are freed from sorrow
And all are awakened.

Author unknown, inspired by Metta Sutta, the Buddha's words on kindness

This is what should be done by one who is skilled in goodness, and who knows the path of peace:
Let them be able and upright, straightforward and gentle in speech.
Humble and not conceited, contented and easily satisfied.
Let them not do the slightest thing that the wise would later reprove.

In gladness and in safety, may all beings be at ease.

Let none deceive another, or despise any being in any state. Let none through anger or ill-will wish harm upon another. With a boundless heart one should cherish all living beings: radiating kindness over the entire world, spreading upwards to the skies, and downwards to the depths; outwards and unbounded,

Freed from hatred and ill-will.

Free from drowsiness, one should sustain this recollection. By not holding to fixed views, the pure-hearted one, having clarity of vision, is now born again into this world.

Prayer for Creation by Sensei Ulrich, Manitoba Buddhist Temple

We gently caress you, the Earth, our planet and our home.

Our vision has brought us closer to you, making us aware of the harm we have done to the life-network upon which we ourselves depend.

We are reminded that we have poisoned your waters, your lands, your air.

We have filled you with the bones of our dead from war and greed.

Your pain is our pain.

Touching you gently, we pray that we may become peace-bringers and life-bringers so that our home in its journey around the Sun not become a sterile and lonely place. May this prayer and its power last forever.

“The Lord’s Prayer as I hear It” by the Rev. Charles Allen

All-embracing Love, in, among and beyond us all,
defy us when we invoke your name to serve our own ends.
Open us and our world to the new life you are bringing,
and sustain us through our daily cares.
Bring peace to our conflicts with you, with others, with ourselves,
and shine through our fears of failure and death.
For our life together dwells always in the radiance of your empowering.
Let it be.

Adapted from the “Golden Chain Prayer” of the Buddha

We are a link in the golden chain of love that stretches around the world; we will keep our link bright
and strong.
We will be kind and gentle to every living thing and protect all who are weaker than ourselves.
We will think pure and beautiful thoughts, say pure and beautiful words, and do pure and beautiful
deeds.
May every link in this chain of love be bright and strong, and may we all attain peace.