

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." –Genesis 1:26 NIV

As I was looking for an idea for a devotion to share on the Trinity Web page, and knowing that Earth Day is April 22nd, I found this hymn written by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette "O God, Creator of All Things". Here is the first verse:

*O God, Creator of all things, the earth belongs to you!
In love, you place it in our hands and give us work to do.
"Take care of what is mine!" you say. "Build up and don't destroy."
When we find courage to obey, your earth is filled with joy.**

I would like to share the Hymn Note for "O God, Creator of All Things" that explains in the author's own words why this hymn was written.

"O God, Creator of All Things" is a new hymn by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette that lifts up God's call for Christians to care for the environment. It begins with an acknowledgement that to "have dominion" (Genesis 1:26) means to care for creation in a loving, responsible way. The hymn celebrates practical ways we can be good stewards of the earth: We can use God's gifts of wind, water, geo-thermal and solar energy. We can do our best to get our food from local, organic sources. We will see health benefits when we build community bike paths, plant trees, and work together with others in community gardens. God calls us as people of faith to work in personal, political and prayerful ways to care for creation. Caring for God's earth is simply a way of showing our daily thanks to God for all that God has given us.

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, we thank You for the many blessings You have given us. At a time when things are so uncertain, and not knowing when we can get together with family and friends again, we know You are right beside us in all that we do and feel. We pray for those who are struggling with the virus and other illness, and for all who put their lives on the line. God, thank You. We know we are loved by You as You sent us Your son, Jesus. Amen.

*"O God, Creator of All Things", Carolyn Winfrey Gillette © 2012 www.carolynshymns.com