

2022 Season of Creation Weekly Announcements & Resources

Provided by the CP Laudato Si' Animation Team



Thursday August 26: Upcoming Season of Creation

The Season of Creation is a special time for reflection and action for creation that begins on September 1 with the World Day of Prayer for Creation and extends through October 4, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. It is a time to reflect upon our interconnectedness with all God's creation as we live our congregational and province [Laudato Si' commitments](#). Each week the CP Laudato Si' Animation Team will share (via the CP Thursday announcements) one resource for reflection and action around the theme, "Listen to the Voice of Creation." We encourage you to embrace the weekly messaging and respond as robustly as you can. In preparation for the Season of Creation, we invite you to [watch this short video](#) introduction. Consider this [prayer resource](#).

Thursday, September 1: Listen to the Voice of Creation

Listen to the Voice of Creation, calls us to pay attention to "the voices of a diminishing diversity of more-than-human species." These voices are "echoes of the Divine because all creatures have the same origin and ending in God." **Action:** Take a walk, look out the window, or sit quietly outside or inside, and allow yourself to be invited into conversation with an individual of another species. Remembering that "Earth is a community of subjects, not a collection of objects" (Thomas Berry), pay attention to the voice of that being as a subject with inherent value and dignity. [Video resource](#).

Action A: Call or write your legislators to urge support for the [Recovering America's Wildlife Act](#). [Click here](#) to use SSND's Voter Voice Tool.

Action B: Creatively express your reflections via prayer, poem, song, photo, drawing or painting and share with Shalom Office to inspire others.

Thursday, September 8: Listen to the Cry of the Earth

Ozone is not a typical greenhouse gas: it is both beneficial and harmful to Earth. In the stratosphere, ozone is beneficial absorbing harmful UV rays and preventing them from reaching Earth's surface. In the troposphere, close to Earth, it is a component of smog, trapping heat which leads to heat waves and causes respiratory illnesses to humans and animals. It is produced when pollution from fossil fuel combustion combines with sunlight. Take steps this week to reduce your energy use - electricity, gasoline, natural gas - so to reduce ozone. [Click here](#) for resource. Share with the Shalom Office actions you have taken.

Action A: Thank your legislators for passage of the Inflation Reduction Act and encourage their continued support for efforts to address the climate crisis and protect our common home including support for the [Recovering America's Wildlife Act](#). [Click here](#) to use SSND's Voter Voice Tool.

Action B: Find a creative vegetarian recipe then cook it, take a photo and serve it in style! (Yes, even for yourself). Creatively express your reflections on this issue via prayer, poem, song, photo, drawing or painting and share with Shalom Office to inspire others.

Thursday, September 15: Listen to the Voice of the Marginalized

We are struggling to receive our rights as humans. Our skin is the wrong color, we speak with an accent, we worship God with another name. While the climate crisis impact all of us, it disproportionately

impacts women, the poor, and people of color. [Watch this short video](#) on climate and racial justice featuring voices of marginalized people. Examine your own attitude to those who are different from yourself.

Action A: The theme for this year's International Day of Peace (9/21) is "End Racism. Build Peace" In recognition of this and our province commitment to address racism, take time for prayer and conversation about dismantling racism and building peace. [Click here](#) for resources. Let your voice be heard using [SSND's Voter Voice Tool](#).

Action B: Creatively express your reflections on this issue via prayer, poem, song, photo, drawing or painting and share with Shalom Office to inspire others.

Action C: Review and make use of the National Farm Worker Ministry [Harvest of Justice resources](#). The focus for this season is child labor in agriculture.

Thursday, September 22: Listen to Migrants and Refugees

A staggering 100 million people have now been forced to flee their homes globally according to the United Nations, highlighting worldwide food insecurity, the climate crisis, war in Ukraine, severe poverty and violence in Central America, and other emergencies. The church celebrates the World Day of Migrants and Refugees this year on September 25. [Watch this short video](#) from Pope Francis in which he invites us to be part of a culture of encounter that welcomes, protects, integrates, and promotes immigrants and refugees in our midst. How are you responding to this call?

Action A: In support of National Migration Week (9/20 – 9/25) take an action to support migrants and refugees: a) Host a speaker or attend a presentation; b) Write a letter to the editor – [click here](#) for a sample; c) Use [SSND's Voter Voice Tool](#) to urge Congress to take action.

Action B: Learn about the Catholic Nonviolence Days of Action (9/21-10/2) and take steps to participate. [Click here](#) for resource.

Action C: Creatively express your reflections on this issue via prayer, poem, song, photo, drawing or painting and share with Shalom Office to inspire others.

Thursday, September 29: Listen to the Voice of the Water

I am gasping as I am clogged with plastic pollution. I can no longer care for all the creatures within me. No light can penetrate and no oxygen can dissolve. I am choked with the detritus of Dead Sea creatures who are becoming extinct. **Action:** Write to companies that proliferate single use plastics and encourage them to switch to more biodegradable materials. Or write to thank a company that you see moving in that direction. [Resource](#).

Action A: Take the [Single-Use Plastics Survey](#) and explore options you and your community can take to minimize reliance on single use plastic. [Resource](#). Share with the Shalom Office actions you have taken to reduce your use.

Action B: On the Feast of St. Francis (10/4) take time to commune with nature, listening to the voice of creation, pondering this incredible expression of God's love and our place within it. [Watch this short video reflection](#). Pray Psalm 8 or Psalm of your choice. Have a conversation with someone about the need for us to take better care of our common home.

Action C: Creatively express your reflections about this issue via prayer, poem, song, photo, drawing or painting and share with Shalom Office to inspire others.
