

Prayer of the Month • July 2015

Creator God, what a complex tapestry your creative fingers have woven; We delight at the daily reminders of your creative power. This tapestry is closely interwoven, fragile, changing; changing too fast. Scientists confirm what our hearts already know – and we are fearful. We are fearful of seasons that have lost their pattern; of all the uncertainties that climate change is bringing. Politicians bend and bow to meet national priorities, while greenhouse gases build, oceans acidify and air streams shift. Forgive us for our lack of response; For seeing the scale of this crisis as reason not to engage. Grant that through our prayers your Holy Spirit may give wisdom, inspiration and resolve to our politicians, leaders and negotiators, enabling them to make the tough decisions necessary for all people to live, to hope and to shape a greener world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

www.prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk

This month we consider a very contemporary and detailed prayer, which has come out of a movement to combat climate change. It is a prayer, firstly, of thanks, and then of engagement. It faces the issues of what we are losing – the pattern of the seasons, predictability. Things are building to a crisis, so we should bring our fears and concerns to the Lord. We can be daunted by the scale of the crisis, when we think about it, which is a reason to turn away, the prayer admits, but it prays for the help of the Holy Spirit for all those who have the power to address the problems. It ends by putting before us a vision of something to aim for – a greener world. The 'pray and fast for the climate' movement suggests fasting and praying on the first day of each month.

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