



**"Connecting People to Nature",
the theme for World Environment Day
2017,**

**implores us to get outdoors
and into nature,
to appreciate its beauty and its
importance,**

**and to take forward the call to protect
the Earth that we share.**

**This year's theme invites you to think
about how we are part of nature
and how intimately we depend on it.**

**It challenges us to find fun and
exciting ways to experience and cherish
this vital relationship.**

Reflections for June 05

'If you would learn more, ask the beasts.
Seek information from the birds of the air.
The creeping things of earth
will give you lessons,
and the fishes of the sea will tell you all.
There is not a single creature that does not
know that everything is of God's making.
God holds in power the soul
of every living thing,
and the breath of every human body.'
(Job 12. 7-10)

***Prayer is nothing but the inhaling and
exhaling of the one breath of the universe.
Hildegard.***

To listen to Earth's many voices, to hear
her song and her cry, to attune ourselves to
her rhythms such that she does become the
primary revelation of the sacred is one
ongoing invitation on our personal journey
of transformation.

Let us draw strength and joy from this
opportunity to be drawn into the mystery
at the heart of all that is.

*O God, enlarge within us the sense of
communion with all living things, our
brothers and sisters, the animals, to whom
thou gave the earth as their home in
common with us.*

*We remember with shame that in the past
we have exercised the high dominion of
humans with ruthless cruelty, so that the
voice of the earth,
which should have gone up to thee in
song, has been a groan of travail.*

*May we realize that they live not for us
alone but for themselves, and for thee and
that they love the sweetness of life. -*

(St. Basil the Great born 330)



Spend some time in nature today.

Prayer

Holy One, teach us to befriend Earth.
Open our ears to the cries of creation,
Cries for justice from the land,
the seas and the skies.

Open our hearts and empower us to live
simply and to walk gently on the earth.
Open our eyes to see the Divine Presence
pulsing through Earth.

We give thanks for the gift of all that is.
Help us to be grateful and graceful as one
of Earth's species in relationship with the
whole community of life.

Amen. (Connections India)