

## The Canticle Of Creation

The "Canticle of Creation" is a song of praise written by Francis of Assisi as he approached death amidst illness and disability. As the Franciscan poet Murray Bodo has written, as Francis' turning to God unfolded and he was gripped by the fact of the Incarnation, nature became holy for him. He was enthralled by God's presence in the created order.

Francis calls out to all of creation as brother and sister, revealing the core of the Franciscan worldview: that God is the source of all being; that the Creator God is the Parent; that all creatures therefore are brother and sister to one another; that everything deserves love and respect.

Francis saw God in everything and so do we. We look upon the earth with humility and with an open and grateful heart, aware of the divine goodness in all things.

### CANTICLE OF CREATION

Be praised Good Lord for Brother Sun  
who brings us each new day.

Be praised for Sister Moon: white  
beauty bright and fair, with wandering  
stars she moves through the night.

Be praised my Lord for Brother Wind,  
for air and clouds and the skies of every season.

Be praised for Sister Water: humble,  
helpful, precious, pure; she cleanses  
us in rivers and renews us in rain.

Be praised my Lord for Brother fire:  
he purifies and enlightens us.

Be praised my Lord for Mother Earth:  
abundant source, all life sustaining;  
she feeds us bread and fruit and gives us flowers.

Be praised my Lord for the gift of life;  
for changing dusk and dawn; for touch  
and scent and song.

Be praised my Lord for those who  
pardon one another for love of thee,  
and endure sickness and tribulation.  
Blessed are they who shall endure it in  
peace, for they shall be crowned by Thee.

Be praised Good Lord for sister Death  
who welcomes us in loving embrace.

Be praised my Lord for all your  
creation serving you joyfully.

Francis of Assisi, 1225 A.D

Source: <http://www.clintonfranciscans.com/our-home-the-canticle-the-canticle-of-creation.html>