

Peace to Our Earth

Peace to this earth,
This gift of creation,
Which we celebrate
With joy and with reverence.

In the spirit of the first Francis,
May we take time to see
The radiance of creation,
This gift of light and liquid
And green growth.

Peace to this earth;
May we practice nonviolence
Toward our lakes, rivers and seas.
May we renew the living waters
Teeming with life, small and large.
May clean waters quench our deep thirst.

Peace to this earth;
May we practice nonviolence
Toward the land, the very ground of life;
May we restore the soil
So its richness can give us plentiful food.
May we all be nourished by the fruits of the earth.

Peace to this earth;
May we practice nonviolence
Toward air, sky, clouds.
May we respect these gifts
So we can breathe freely in gentle rain.
May the natural world be a safe home for all.

Peace to this earth,
We pray with our pope,
Peace to creation,
Which we celebrate
With joy and reverence,
Knowing we hold a fragile world
In our hands. Amen.

—Jane Deren, Ph.D.

Note: In his first Easter message, Pope Francis declared “Peace to our earth.”

