
Awakening to a New Consciousness

*Listening to the Cry of the Earth
and the Cry of the Poor*

Mercy's Theological Reflection Process



Session One Prayer

Call to Prayer

Reader 1: We place ourselves in God's Divine presence—deep within and all around us.

We take a breath and breathe in the air that is essential for life and breathe out the dangers of polluted air. (pause)

We place our feet firmly on the ground and hear the cry of Earth beneath our feet—her moans and aches from the cracks and holes that have been created below the surface and her cries of grief from the species that have been taken.

We look around to those who are here with us and center ourselves in the cries of those whose voices may be muffled by power and greed of our world.

Song

[Messenger](#) by Joanne Shenandoah

Centering Prayer by Virginia Fifield, Mercy Associate

(Read by one reader, or divide up and have each stanza read by a different member of the group.)

Creator of all this is, we give thanks for the beauty you put in every facet of your creation.

You made every stone, plant, creature and human perfect and whole and placed the sun, moon and stars as a part of the Sacred Hoop. You cause the clouds to rise over the earth and show us the power of your creation.





Help us to see with the eyes of children, the strength and beauty of all my relations, and help us to never become unable to stand in awe of all your hand has touched.

May we all come to understand that all creation is a living extension of your perfect love, and that it is our responsibility to care for your handiwork with humility, and gratitude.

Help us to slow down long enough to witness the beauty and power of all you have created. May we once again have our breath stop as we see the magnificence of creation.

Closing Prayer

May our ears be opened to the cries, may our eyes be opened to the damage, and may our hearts and minds be open to change.

Amen.