



*We declare our covenant with God to walk upon Earth for the greatest good of all creation.*

**Taize Earth Prayer**

Precious Spirit, we honor Mother Earth, our planet, our home. You have made us stewards of the land and the abundance of all it holds. We accept this challenge, knowing you are the Source of the lessons we need to live wisely. We remember how the planet looks from outer space and we hold that image in our minds. We protect our Mother Earth.

*--Rev. Marilyn Muehlbach*

**More Fruits – Celebrate Creation with Special Services**

When we're *Inspired*, filled with God's breath, our natural impulse is to share it! The following special services were developed by the creative ministries in our region to celebrate our Earth home.

Unity Church of North Idaho in Coeur d'Alene observes each Thanksgiving Eve with a Taize service, and the yearly themes have included gratitude for our planet. This service style is a beautiful interweaving of group chants, songs and prayers. Two of Coeur d'Alene's *Taize Services for Earth* are now available (see the prayer at left).

Since 2003 the region's Earth Care team has been performing special services based on the "four sacred elements." Three of these services are now available. We encourage their use for celebrating the changing seasons.

- Earth: *Love is the Healer Service*
- Water: *Gathering of the Waters Ceremony*
- Air: *Prayer Ribbon Ceremony*
- Fire: *Burning Bowl Service* (in 2009)

**Fruits of the Work – Setting Intention**

According to the Webster dictionary, *Intention* is "a determination to act in a certain way: RESOLVE." Extraordinary results in life become possible when we are fully intent.

I believe our intention in Unity is to make life-affirming choices. It's an exquisite intention, but remains only words on a page unless those words are translated into authentic action.

If authentic action were easy there wouldn't be so many "how-to" books on the market! We've been conditioned in different ways by our past experiences, which often hampers our ability to recognize our habitual life-negating choices.

Fortunately spiritual practice, in service to our intention, can stretch us and support our resolve because it engages our awareness and focuses our attention on life.

The Northwest Region's *Path to Earth Care* is a set of practices that can enhance our ability to make life-affirming choices for our Earth. Those practices are *Pray, Vision, Inspire, Learn, Share, Act, and Renew*. When we participate in these activities as an affirmation of Life, our relationship to Earth and to Life itself is transformed. Try them and see!

*--Barbara Wilson*

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Contact Unity Earth Care Northwest at [unityearthcare@yahoo.com](mailto:unityearthcare@yahoo.com)

Visit our webpage at [www.unitynwregion.org](http://www.unitynwregion.org) go to /Programs/EarthCare



*Prayer Ribbon Ceremony at Unity Church of Bozeman*

Newly revised, *The Compassionate Universe seven-week series* by Marilyn Muehlbach is also available. Based on the book of the same name by Eknath Easwaran, the series kit includes Sunday talks and meditations, bulletin inserts, affirmation cards, small group materials, and more!

Go to RESOURCES on our Earth Care webpage (see left) to download all of these materials.