



insects



O heavenly Father, you
have filled the world

with beauty: Open our eyes to
behold your gracious hand in all your
works; that, rejoicing in your whole
creation, we may learn to serve you
with gladness; for the sake of him
through whom all things were made,
your Son Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen.



THE *readings*

A reading from Psalm 104.

¹ I will praise the Lord.

Lord my God, you are very great.

You are dressed in glory and majesty.

² The Lord wraps himself in light as if it were a robe.

He spreads out the heavens like a tent.

³ He builds his palace high in the heavens.

He makes the clouds serve as his chariot.

He rides on the wings of the wind.

⁴ He makes the winds serve as his messengers.

He makes flashes of lightning serve him.

⁵ He placed the earth on its foundations.

It can never be moved.

⁶ You, Lord, covered it with the oceans like a blanket.

The waters covered the mountains.

⁷ But you commanded the waters, and they ran away.

At the sound of your thunder they rushed off.

⁸ They flowed down the mountains.

They went into the valleys.

They went to the place you appointed for them.

9 You drew a line they can't cross.

They will never cover the earth again.

10 The Lord makes springs pour water into the valleys.

It flows between the mountains.

11 The springs give water to all the wild animals.

The wild donkeys satisfy their thirst.

12 The birds in the sky build nests by the waters.

They sing among the branches.

13 The Lord waters the mountains from his palace
high in the clouds.

The earth is filled with the things he has made.

14 He makes grass grow for the cattle
and plants for people to take care of.

That's how they get food from the earth.

15 There is wine to make people glad.

There is olive oil to make their skin glow.

And there is bread to make them strong.

16 The cedar trees of Lebanon belong to the Lord.

He planted them and gave them plenty of water.

17 There the birds make their nests.

The stork has its home in the juniper trees.

- 18 The high mountains belong to the wild goats.
The cliffs are a safe place for the rock badgers.
- 19 The Lord made the moon to mark off the seasons.
The sun knows when to go down.
- 20 You, Lord, bring darkness, and it becomes night.
Then all the animals of the forest prowl around.
- 21 The lions roar while they hunt.
All their food comes from God.
- 22 The sun rises, and they slip away.
They return to their dens and lie down.
- 23 Then people get up and go to work.
They keep working until evening.
- 24 Lord, you have made so many things!
How wise you were when you made all of them!
The earth is full of your creatures.
- 25 Look at the ocean, so big and wide!
It is filled with more creatures than people can
count.
It is filled with living things, from the largest to the
smallest.
- 26 Ships sail back and forth on it.
Leviathan, the sea monster you made, plays in it.

27 All creatures depend on you
to give them their food when they need it.

28 When you give it to them,
they eat it.

When you open your hand,
they are satisfied with good things.

29 When you turn your face away from them,
they are terrified.

When you take away their breath,
they die and turn back into dust.

30 When you send your Spirit,
you create them.
You give new life to the ground.

31 May the glory of the Lord continue forever.
May the Lord be happy with what he has made.

32 When he looks at the earth, it trembles.
When he touches the mountains, they pour out
smoke.

33 I will sing to the Lord all my life.
I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

34 May these thoughts of mine please him.
I find my joy in the Lord.

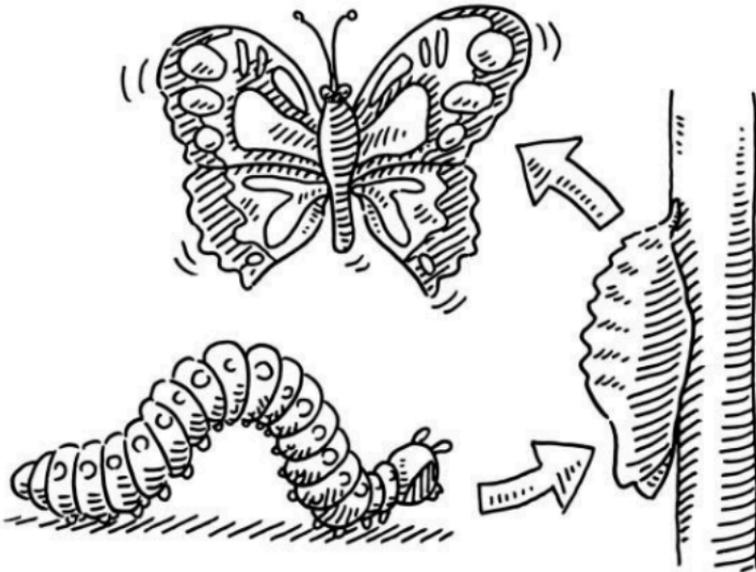
35 But may sinners be gone from the earth.

May evil people disappear.

I will praise the Lord.

Praise the Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.



A reading from 2 Corinthians 5:14-15, 17-21.

¹⁴ Christ's love controls us. We are sure that one person died for everyone. And so everyone died.

¹⁵ Christ died for everyone. He died so that those who live should not live for themselves anymore. They should live for Christ. He died for them and was raised again. ...¹⁷ When anyone lives in Christ,

the new creation has come. The old is gone! The new is here! ¹⁸ All this is from God. He brought us back to himself through Christ's death on the cross.

And he has given us the task of bringing others back to him through Christ. ¹⁹ God was bringing the world back to himself through Christ. He did not hold

people's sins against them. God has trusted us with the message that people may be brought back to him. ²⁰ So we are Christ's official messengers. It is as

if God were making his appeal through us. Here is what Christ wants us to beg you to do. Come back to God! ²¹ Christ didn't have any sin. But God made him

become sin for us. So we can be made right with God because of what Christ has done for us.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE *wonderings*

*what do you wonder about
because of what you've read or heard?*

THE *observations*

*as you see the creatures of the world
become new creations,
how does that help you see how Christ makes you new?*

THE *connections*

***what does today's conversation make you think of? have
you read or heard about others becoming new creations
because of Jesus?***

THE *response*

***what do you want to draw or write or remember
because of what you read or heard or saw?***

THE *prayers*

***what do you want to say to God
because of what you read or heard or saw?***

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory,
forever and ever.
Amen.

**THE DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

God knows you! He's crazy about you! He goes with you everywhere!