



*For many years the Orthodox Church has celebrated September 1 as a World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. In August of 2015, Pope Francis declared that the Catholic Church would also join in celebrating this World Day of Prayer. On this September 1, the RCL Benziger family encourages you to renew your commitment to care for God's gift of creation. Join us in praying the Canticle of the Sun, written by Saint Francis of Assisi, the patron Saint of ecologists and of all people who work to protect the environment.*

## **Canticle of the Sun**

**Saint Francis of Assisi**

Most high, all-powerful, good Lord,  
yours are the praises, the glory, and the honor, and  
all blessing,  
to you alone, Most High, do they belong,  
and no human is worthy to mention your name.  
Praised be you, my Lord, with all your creatures,  
especially Sir Brother Sun,  
who is the day and through whom you give us light.  
And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendor;  
and bears a likeness of you, Most High One.  
Praised be you, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars,  
in heaven you formed them clear and precious  
and beautiful.  
Praised be you, my Lord, through Brother Wind,  
and through the air, cloudy and serene, and every  
kind of weather,  
through whom you give sustenance to your creatures.  
Praised be you, my Lord, through Sister Water,  
who is very useful and humble and precious and chaste.  
Praised be you, my Lord, through Brother Fire,  
through whom you light the night,  
and he is beautiful and playful and robust and strong.  
Praised be you, my Lord, through our Sister Mother Earth,  
who sustains and governs us,  
and who produces various fruit with colored flowers  
and herbs.  
Praised be you, my Lord, through those who give pardon for  
your love,  
and bear infirmity and tribulation.  
Blessed are those who endure in peace  
for by you, Most High, shall they be crowned.  
Praised be you, my Lord, through our Sister Bodily Death,  
from whom no one living can escape.  
Woe to those who die in mortal sin.  
Blessed are those whom death will find in your most  
holy will,  
for the second death shall do them no harm.  
Praise and bless my Lord and give him thanks  
and serve him with great humility.