

# Prayer for the Boreal Forest and its Peoples

Good and gracious God, creator of all that is seen and unseen.  
Lord Jesus Christ, through whom all things have been made.  
Holy Spirit, the giver of life.

We are grateful for the gift of life on our home, the Earth – the pure gift of life.

We are grateful for the gift of the forests of the world –

*the lush tropical forests teeming with life  
the temperate deciduous forests flashing with autumn  
brilliance  
the dry savanna forests abounding in countless plant  
species shaped by fire and drought  
the alpine snowy mountain forests, bearers of water  
and the great circumpolar halo of dark green boreal  
forests capping the world.*

We praise you for the trees of the boreal forest – the pine, spruce, fir, birch, poplar, and larch that stand green and bright in heat of summer – and patient and strong in cold of winter.

We praise you for the beasts and birds of the dense woodlands, the migrating caribou roaming the boreal barren lands, the welcoming nurseries of the migrating spring flocks.

We praise you for the bogs, fens, and marshes of the boreal, the vast wetlands, the countless lakes and rivers, running fresh and wild, teeming with life.

We praise you for all that the boreal forest provides for our daily lives.

We praise you for the home that many people find in the boreal forests, for the many indigenous peoples, for whom the northern forests are both memory and future.

May we be ever mindful of your gifts of life, and goodness and joy that you share with us in the boreal forest.

We delight in this grace.

Strengthen us to listen to the voice of the boreal lands and waters. Keep us attentive to your Word in all creation.

We ask all this in the name of the blessed creator Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

