Litany for the Earth
Barbara Bridge

FROM THE COLLECTION
Deep Peace
Octavo Packet #30141832
CD #30141833
Litany for the Earth

Based on “A Prayer for Our Earth” by Pope Francis,
from *Laudato Si’: On Care for Our Common Home*

Barbara Bridge

**INTRO** (*$\text{q} = \text{ca. 128}$*)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Em</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>Bm</th>
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**VERSES**

Cantor

1. God of compassion, creator of all things;
2. God, you are present in all living creatures;
3. Earth is your gift, to be shared with all creatures;
4. Fill us with wonder and reverence for all things;
5. We are united with all in existence;
6. Heal us from greed and disregard for others;
7. Fill us with peace to live as one family;
8. Spirit of God, you dwell deep within us:

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<th>Em</th>
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Soprano

1-8. Pour out your mercy, pour out your love!

Alto

Tenor

Bass

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<th>Em</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>G</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>Asus4</th>
<th>A</th>
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1. Answer the cry of the earth and its creatures:
2. All beings dwell in your tender embrace:
3. We are not owners, but stewards of the earth:
4. Teach us to value the worth of each person:
5. May we sow beauty, not pollution and waste:
6. Help us to rescue the poor and abandoned:
7. Brothers and sisters, not harming each other:
8. Lead us, inspire us to do what is good:

Em    D/F#   G    A

1-8. Heal our common home!

Litany for the Earth
VERSES: Alternative Accompaniment 1

Em D C Bm Em D G D A A\sus4 A

Em D/F# G A Em A/E D A A\sus4 A

VERSES: Alternative Accompaniment 2

Em D C Bm Em D

G D A A\sus4 A Em D/F#

G A Em A/E D A A\sus4 A
Litany for the Earth

(Guitar/Choral)

Based on “A Prayer for Our Earth” by Pope Francis, Barbara Bridge
from Laudato Si’: On Care for Our Common Home

INTRO (q = ca. 128)

Em - - - D - - - C - - - Bm - - -

Verses

Em Cantor D C Bm

1. God of com-pass-ion, cre-a-tor of all things:
2. God, you are present in all living creatures:
3. Earth is your gift, to be shared with all creatures:
4. Fill us with wonder and reverence for all things:
5. We are united with all in existence:
6. Heal us from greed and disregard for others:
7. Fill us with peace, to live as one family:
8. Spirit of God, you dwell deep within us:

Soprano Em D G D A Asus4 A

Alto 1-8. Pour out your mercy, pour out your love!

Tenor

Bass

Em Cantor D/F# G A

1. Answer the cry of the earth and its creatures:
2. All beings dwell in your tender embrace:
3. We are not owners, but stewards of the earth:
4. Teach us to value the worth of each person:
5. May we sow beauty, not pollution and waste:
6. Help us to rescue the poor and abandoned:
7. Brothers and sisters, not harming each other:
8. Lead us, inspire us to do what is good:

S Em A/E D A Asus4 A D.S. (Fine)

A

1-8. Heal our common home!

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At the beginning of any verse, start playing at A, B, or C, then alternate freely among them in any order for ensuing verses.
Composer Notes

“Litany for the Earth” can be sung at any liturgy celebrating the gift of creation and our responsibility to be good stewards of the earth. In it we also sing of our call to care for the poor as our brothers and sisters.

It is appropriate at the gathering or closing of a celebration. The text by Pope Francis certainly has a “Franciscan” identity, speaking of God’s love for us and the gift of all creation.

The format of the litany is “call-and-response,” as the cantor and the assembly are in a dialogue. Each of the cantor’s invocations is based on “A Prayer for Our Earth” from Pope Francis’ 2015 Encyclical Letter Praise Be to You — Laudato Si’. The assembly’s response is a cry on behalf of the earth and all creatures: “Pour out your mercy, pour out your love! Heal our common home!”

Pope Francis reminds us that, though we are all journeying towards our common home in heaven, “we come together to take charge of this home which has been entrusted to us, knowing that all the good which exists here will be taken up into the heavenly feast. In union with all creatures, we journey through this land seeking God...Let us sing as we go. May our struggles and our concern for this planet never take away the joy of our hope” (Praise Be to You – Laudato Si’, 244).

—Barbara Bridge
LITANY FOR THE EARTH

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1. God of compassion, creator of all things:
2. God, you are present in all living creatures:
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5. We are united with all in existence:
6. Heal us from greed and disregard for others:
7. Fill us with peace, to live as one family:
8. Spirit of God, you dwell deep within us:

All

1-8. Pour out your mercy, pour out your love!

Cantor

1. Answer the cry of the earth and its creatures:
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All

1-8. Heal our common home!

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