



Prayer of Approach & Confession, with Pardon
(Psalm 19 and Isaiah 40)

Sustaining God

The Heavens **declare** your glory;
the skies **proclaim** your handiwork;
Day after day these make their feelings known
night after night they broadcast a wisdom
which is far from obscure.

Their voice goes out into all the Earth,
There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard.

Or hadn't we heard?
Or didn't we learn?
Enough to change direction?

Dear God, by your grace
in the gracious gift of many warnings
undergirded by beauty and wonder
we have seen and heard, first-hand
and the trustworthiness of many messengers
the meaning of **Justice Within Creation.**

We **have** read the news
and wondered how to trust;
What sort of truth to act on?

So long we've pondered
how and whether
what we've learned and witnessed
should shift the settled ways
that cost the life of neighbours.

We've **seen** the angry heavens,
felt the power of the Wild Wind.

Enjoyed the warmth of the Sun with gentle breeze;
the scent of the flowers;
the wonder even of decay - in bread risen
for nourishment,
wine matured for gladness.
the complexity of the compost heap
that powers the fragrant garden.

In lands we once thought wasted,
peat locks in carbon;
Life weaves their diverse way of praise
-in places where we can't **survive-**
but which we also need
if **we're** to do so.

So
Since we **have** known
Since we **have** heard...

Dear God sustain us as we act
on Nature's angry truth in love;

For healing, move us on
from harm we **now know** chosen,
to struggle on the side of green and growing:
forgiven people, kitted out
with hope and joy
to share as we're Creation. AMEN