



The Abundant Life Garden Project®

Litany of Thanks for Soil



Ask children to sit in a circle. The leader should also sit in the circle with the children if at all possible. Place the large bowl of clean, fresh water in the middle of your circle.

(If you have an older child who would like to help consider allowing them to lead.)

Introduction

Leader: Now, I will read several prayers about soil. Since many important gifts of life come from the land itself, please respond to each of these prayers with “We thank you, Lord, for the gift of soil.” (The leader might ask children to practice “We thank you, Lord, for the gift of soil” before continuing.)

Leader: The Lord be with you!

Children and helpers: And also with you!

Leader: Let us pray

Leader: Lord, thank you for the gift of this time together. Bless us as we give thanks for the gift of land of all varieties, and bless those who work the soil to provide food for themselves and for us. **In Christ name, Amen.**

Litany begins

Leader: We share this time to remember that is it through the gift of soil that we have life on earth.

Children and helper: We thank you, Lord, for the gift of soil.

Leader: We thank you for the creation of rocks, topsoil, clay, silt, sand, peat, chalk and loamy soil. We thank you for the wind and the rain to transform rocks into soil for our use and nourishment.

Children and helper: We thank you, Lord, for the gift of soil.

Leader: We thank you for valleys and mountains, for deserts, rainforests and tundra. We thank you for prairies and swamps, savannas and coastlines, canyons and riverbeds.

Children and helper: We thank you, Lord, for the gift of soil.

Leader: We thank you for the soil that nourishes our crops, soil that filters our groundwater, and soil that holds water for our future use in creek beds, lake beds and river beds.

Children and helper: We thank you, Lord, for the gift of soil.

Leader: We thank you for soil that allows us to grow our food and upon which we build our homes.

Children and helper: We thank you, Lord, for the gift of soil.

Leader: Help us, Lord, to make wise use of the gift of soil.

Children and helper: We thank you, Lord, for the gift of soil.

Leader: Be with those who work the land, cultivate it, and grow food for themselves and for us.

Children and helper: We thank you, Lord, for the gift of soil.

Leader: Help us, O Lord, to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit, just as soil receives the free gifts of water and wind.

Children and helper: We thank you, Lord, for the gift of soil.

Leader: Help us O Lord, like the soil, to weather the storms that change us, that turn us into something different that may even displace us.

Children and helper: We thank you, Lord, for the gift of soil.

Leader: Help us, O Lord, to always stay firmly rooted in You, our foundation and our source. **In Christ's name, Amen.**

