



The Abundant Life Garden Project® Litany of Thanks for Water



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. You may dip your hands in it and ask children to dip their hands in it if you wish. (If you have an older child who would like to help consider allowing them to lead.)

Introduction

Leader: I will read several prayers about water. Since water is such an important gift, please respond to each of these prayers with, "We thank you, Lord, for the gift of water." (The leader might ask children to practice "We thank you, Lord, for the gift of water" 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, and for the gift of water. Bless us in this time together, and bless those in need of clean and more abundant water.

Children and helpers: Amen.

Litany begins

Leader: We thank you, Lord, for your creation that gives life on earth.

Children and helpers: We thank you, Lord, for the gift of water.

Leader: We give thanks for rain, snow, fog and dew. We give thanks for water under the ground, above the ground and in the oceans.

Children and helpers: We thank you, Lord, for the gift of water.

Leader: We give thanks for vast waters of the oceans, for water in lakes, rivers and streams. We give thanks for waters in glaciers, on the polar caps, for water bubbling out of rocky streams, for aquifers running underneath us and water in the tiniest puddles and buckets.

Children and helpers: We thank you, Lord, for the gift of water.

Leader: We thank you, Lord, for the many uses of water. We give thanks for water to drink, water for cooking, water for bathing and cleaning, water upon and through with we travel to places far and near, and for water that cools us, warms us, and in which we might play.

Children and helpers: We thank you, Lord, for the gift of water.

Leader: We especially thank you, Lord, for the gift of water to grow our food. We ask you to bless us and all people on the earth with enough water for our farms and gardens, to satisfy the thirst of ourselves and of our animals, and to wash away germs and keep us healthy.

Children and helpers: We thank you, Lord, for the gift of water.

Leader: We thank you for the stories of water in the Bible—for the story of the creation of the earth, for the story of new life after the earth was flooded, for the story of water saving your people in the desert, for the story of crossing through water to get to the promised land.

Children and helpers: We thank you, Lord, for the gift of water.

Leader: We thank you Lord, for the water in which Jesus was baptized and for the stories of water during his time on earth. We thank you for the water turned to wine, for the water that quenched his thirst, and for the water made into bread and wine during his Last Supper.

Children and helpers: We thank you, Lord, for the gift of water.

Leader: We ask your help, O Lord, through all floods, droughts, and storms, to see the new creation that follows each one. We ask you to help us remember that you will be with us always in the gift of water.

Children and helpers: We thank you, Lord, for the gift of water.

Leader: Help us to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves. Help us to strive for justice and peace among all people, and to respect the dignity of every human being. **In Christ name, Amen.**

