

Thursday 23 July 2026

Becoming Protectors of creation



Job 12:7–8

But ask the beasts, and they will teach you; the birds of the heavens, and they will tell you; or the bushes of the earth, and they will teach you; and the fish of the sea will declare to you.

Reflection

You are responsible for the trees, the forests, the soil and biodiversity.

- *What is the greatest threat to forests today?*

- *What measures would you take?*

- *Which biblical text sheds light on your mission?*

Psalms 104

Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, you are very great! You are clothed with splendor and majesty, covering yourself with light as with a garment, stretching out the heavens like a tent. He lays the beams of his chambers on the waters; he makes the clouds his chariot; he rides on the wings of the wind; he makes his messengers winds, his ministers a flaming fire. He set the earth on its foundations, so that it should never be moved.



Song

Becoming Protectors of Creation

Job asserts that creation itself is a source of wisdom. Animals, the earth, plants and the natural elements become witnesses capable of teaching humankind. This text is particularly powerful for a theology of ecology: nature speaks and teaches; it reveals something of the Creator; it reminds humankind of its place in the order of the world; it invites an attitude of listening, respect and protection. Job 12:7–8 thus echoes Genesis 2:15, where humankind is given the task of tending and keeping the earth.

To become a protector of creation is to enter into a relationship of listening, respect and responsibility towards all living things. It is to recognise that creation is not an object to be exploited, but a partner who instructs us and entrusts us with a mission.

Prayer

“Lord, teach us to become protectors of your creation”

God of life, You who have breathed life into every creature, You who have planted the forests, dug the springs and shaped the earth, we come before You to listen to the wisdom of Your work.

You tell us, through the voice of Job, that animals can instruct us, that the earth can teach us, that trees and the natural elements bear witness to your presence. Open our ears and our hearts so that we may learn to recognise your voice in the rustling of the leaves, in the song of the birds, in the silence of the forests.

*Prayer for the Churches of the West and North Africa Region
EPMB-EMCI-EPCG-EEAM-EPS-ELS-ELCTG-EEPT-EMT*



Song

Blessing

**May the earth speak to you once more of the Creator, in the
breath of the wind, in the dance of the trees, in the patience of
the stones.**

May God bless you.

Amen!

