



**Listen to the  
Voice of Creation**  
SEASON OF CREATION 2022

Prayer Services for the Season of Creation  
from the Sisters of St. Francis, Clinton, Iowa  
Week Three: Prayer of Creation  
Using Our Senses

**Presider:** The human being experiences the world of creation through our senses. We also experience the Creator God through our senses. Let us take a few minutes just to experience what we see . . . hear . . . touch. . . smell . . . taste.

Open your eyes widely. What do you see that tells you that God is a God of love? That God loves you? That God loves your neighbor?

Speak a word of silent gratitude for the gift of sight.

Now close your eyes and focus your attention on what you hear. What do you hear that tells you that creation is alive, and you are blessed to hear it? What do you hear that tells you to be aware of your surroundings?

Speak a word of silent gratitude for the gift of hearing.

Now pick up one of the raisins provided. Feel its texture, the roughness of the ridges. Now smell it. Notice its sweet smell, its fragrant gift. Now taste it. Slowly move it around in your mouth so that the taste buds of each part of your tongue can experience its flavor. Now slowly chew it, and experience more of the taste.

Speak a word of silent gratitude for the gifts of touch, smell, and taste.

Now let us take a few minutes to silently reflect on Psalm 126 in light of what we have just experienced. Then we will pray the psalm together.

**Psalm 126** From Nan Merrill, *Psalms for Praying*. New York: Bloomsbury, 2007.

Side 1: When the Divine Lover enters the human heart, all yearnings are fulfilled! Then will our mouths ring forth with laughter and our tongues with shouts of joy.

Side 2: Then we will sing songs of praise to You, O Beloved of all hearts  
For gladness will radiate out for all to see; so great is your Presence  
among us.

Side 1: Restore us to wholeness, O Healer, like newborn babes who have never  
strayed from You! May all who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy!

Side 2: May all who go forth weeping tears of repentance, bearing seeds of love,  
Come home to you with shouts of joy, leaving sorrow behind.

All: Glory be to God our Creator, to Jesus the Christ and to the Holy Spirit  
who dwells in our midst both now and forever. Amen.

**Reading: Sirach 17: 5-11 New American Bible (language adapted)**

God forms our tongues and eyes and ears and imparts to us an  
understanding heart.

With wisdom and knowledge God fills humans; good and evil God shows  
them.

God looks with favor upon their hearts and shows them the glorious  
works,

That they may describe the wonders of God's deeds and praise God's  
holy name.

God has set before them knowledge and a law of life as their  
inheritance;

An everlasting covenant was made with them, the commandments were  
revealed to them.

God's majestic glory their eyes beheld, God's glorious voice their ears  
heard.

**Silent reflection**

**Presider:** St. Irenaeus famously stated, "The glory of God is a human being fully  
alive."

**Silent reflection**

**All: Closing Prayer**

**Make Me An Instrument of Your Peace**