## Song of Welcoming for March 21

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Sacred Parent, creator of the sun that makes the seasons, I rejoice in the gift of ever-growing light as the Earth daily leans closer to our daystar. With joyfulness I greet this new season of spring that rises from the gray death chamber of winter.

As my ancestors of old lit feasting fires to banish the darkness and to call forth the fire of the sun, may I enkindle in my heart the flames of hope in new life.

Hope rides on the springtime air carried aloft upon the wind, filling field and forest, city and town, with the incense of excitement.

With awe-filled joy
I sing of the sun, mysterious daystar
that warms and feeds our planet
with energy and light.
I sing with joy that your son, the sun,
has signaled once again
the beginning of a new season of life.

Great and generous are you, my God, who has given us the rich variety of ever-changing seasons.

Amen †

## Thursday Morning Prayer

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SUCICU SESIUI	sacred	gesture
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Once again, as it has done for endless ages, the Earth is slowly turning around toward the sun. Dawn comes with the freshness of that first day of creation. May my worship at the beginning of this day be united with that of birds and wild animals, with clouds and sky.

May my rising be a rehearsal for my resurrection from the dead.

With gratitude for the wonder of this day, for the rich gift of life itself, I enter into silent prayer.

period of silent prayer or meditation

In harmony with all the Earth as it soaks up the fire of the sun,

I express the gratitude and devotion of my heart as I now pray.

a psalm, spiritual reading, or personal prayer

In the quiet of this spring-touched morning, I absorb the light of this new day and soak up the love that ceaselessly flows out of your divine heart.

As a cosmic pilgrim,

traveling with the Earth and her sister planets outward into space,

I ask you to accept my sacrifice of this day in solidarity with the special needs today of \_\_\_\_\_\_.

May I embrace with joy my pilgrim work of unity. May I, with your grace, be an instrument of your peace to all I will meet and in every situation of this day. May our tiny planet, divided in a multitude of nations, races and religions,

be united in its love of you.

May my prayer and all the prayers, sacrifices and deeds of compassion

performed on this planet today be blended together as one and reach you through the mystery of your son Jesus, the cosmic Christ.

O Divine Giver of Life in whom we breathe and live, show yourself to me this day in countless ways. And grant me the grace to bow in wonder and in joy wherever and whenever I discover you. Boldly trace your sacred sign upon me in love as I begin this day in your holy name and in the name of your Son and in the abiding presence of your Spirit, One God forever and ever.

\* sacred gesture

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## A Psalm of Cosmic Communion

May I join you, cosmic congregation of galaxies, as you dance with delight before our God. You spin and leap with brilliant bursts of light, never tiring of your sacred circle-play. May I join you, star-children of countless constellations, in the worship of our common Creator in your rotating rituals of nuclear energy as you sing cosmic chants of divine fire. May I join you, I who find my times of devotion so often flat and fireless, bound by routine and uninspired, stagnant due to their lack of zeal. May I join you, so that my prayers may also spin with sparkling splendor, spawning long tails of luminous devotion to carry my praise and adoration straight to the heart of my Beloved God.

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