

Universal Worship Readings
“We are in Relationship with & Dependent upon
Every Aspect of our Mother Earth & the Universe”
September 13, 2026

Discernment: Understanding and cutting through the illusion of “Living beings” and replace with the understanding that **we are in relationship with and dependent upon every aspect of our Mother Earth and the Universe.**

Hinduism

Those who see all creatures in themselves and themselves in all creatures know no fear.

Those who see all creatures in themselves and themselves in all creatures know no grief.

How can the multiplicity of life delude the one who sees its unity?

The Self is everywhere. Bright is the Self, indivisible, untouched by sin, wise, immanent (inherent/internal/omnipresent) and transcendent. He it is Who holds the cosmos together.

~Isha Upanishad 6-8 (E. Easwaran trans.)

Buddhism

..the wise live without injuring nature, as the bee drinks nectar without harming the flower.

~The Dhammapada 49 (E. Easwaran trans.)

Zoroastrianism

In fact, the best refuge is an Earth where serenity rules. An Earth that Ahura Mazda (God), from the beginning of creation, and in the radiance of righteousness, has cultivated green and fertile, and has presented to its inhabitants the two gifts of Good Thought and the power of Self-Dominance.

~The Gathas 13:6 (K. Khazai trans.)

Taoism

Something unformed and complete—before Heaven and Earth were born—solitary and silent, stands alone and unchanging, pervading all things without limit. It is like the mother of all under Heaven, but I don't know its name—better call it Tao. Better call it great. Great means passing on. Passing on means going far. Going far means returning. Therefore, Tao is great, and Heaven, and Earth and humans. Four great things in the world. Aren't humans one of them? Humans follow Earth. Earth follows Heaven. Heaven follows Tao. Tao follows its own nature.

~Tao Te Ching 25 (S. Addiss & S. Lombardo trans.)

Indigenous

All native people, whether it's Lakota's, Navajo, Hopi, Chakau, Simino, Mohawk, we all relate it to the Earth. Our mother. The thunders are our grandpa. The rivers are our cousins. The Sun is our older brother. The moon is our grandma. Actually, the moon is part of that woman that brought life here. That's why we call her grandma. And everything we do, our ceremonies, our talk, our feasts are for those--Mother Earth, for the wind, for the animals, for the stars. Because you know what? My uncle told us when we

were growing up that not only humans, like western people say, are made in the image of God. We don't dispute that. As long as you also include when the buffalo talks about God, God is a buffalo. And when the deer talks about God, then God is a deer. And when the eagles and the birds talk about God, then God is a bird and an eagle. And so, everything that lives is part of God and in the image of the God, because God is so great that only the God, creation, can be in every living thing. And so, it's not just one person. It's a power way beyond our comprehension. That's the way we believe.

~Excerpts from talk at Yale University, Tom Porter (Chief of the Longhouse Council of Akwesasne--Mohawk Nation, NE U.S. & Canadian borders)

<https://lifeworthliving.yale.edu/resources/spirituality-religion-and-indigenous-cosmology-tom-porter>

Judaism

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

~Genesis 2:15

Christianity

(Written by the Apostle Paul to the church in Colossae...)

For by him all things were created: things in Heaven and on Earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

~Colossians 1:16–17 (NIV)

Islam

Have those who disbelieve not considered that the Heavens and the Earth were sewn together and We (God) rent them asunder? And We made every living thing from water.

~Quran 21:30 (Seyyed Hossein Nasr trans.)

Truth

The same light which is fire on Earth and the Sun in the sky, is God in Heaven.

~Gayan, Hazrat Inayat Khan