

Litany of Reconciliation with Creation and People

One:

**All (in bold) : Great Spirit, Forgive
The Spirit of Light Shines**

The birds are being silenced by our own hands, the bees stumble in their life bearing flight
Great Spirit Forgive

The pervasive violence of hunger grips our neighbors close and far. food deserts, drought and greed chokes.
Great Spirit Forgive

We have taken your life giving water and squandered and spoiled it with chemicals, animal waste, coal ash, and wrap what is left over in pretty plastic bottles to sell.
Great Spirit Forgive

We are addicted to fossil fuels and are mired in an economy and culture that trusts in the religion of exponential consumption and growth.
Great Spirit Forgive

For the last breath of an entire species, and those who will breathe their last this year.
Great Spirit Forgive

We have treated your incredible creativity as a commodity
Great Spirit Forgive

For our temptation to marginalize and dehumanize those who are on the other side of the political aisle, the tracks, or across borders and fences.
Great Spirit Forgive

For our tendency to hold and accept fear as a way of life, ignoring or numbing our deeper capacity to bear light, compassion and love
Great Spirit Forgive

And yet... even in our complicity to the brokenness, even in the darkness, we are reminded that there is a Great Light of liberation, forgiveness, grace and love that is within and around us and all of Creation.
The Spirit of Light Shines

The fabric of spiritual traditions have been woven with light and love.
Captives freed, blind who can see, thieves forgiven, tombs emptied.
The Spirit of Light Shines

The clean power of the Sun, wind, water is growing each day
The Spirit of Light Shines

Gardens that are bringing people together and providing life are blossoming in church yards, synagogues, libraries, cities, rooftops and libraries
The Spirit of Light Shines

People are coming together to face fear and darkness with a courage bolstered by love and Light
The Spirit of Light Shines

We are here today with one another claiming a future of love, compassion and collaboration together weaving a new story of sustainability for ALL of God's creatures.
The Spirit of Light Shines

Written for Earth Day Vigil in 2015