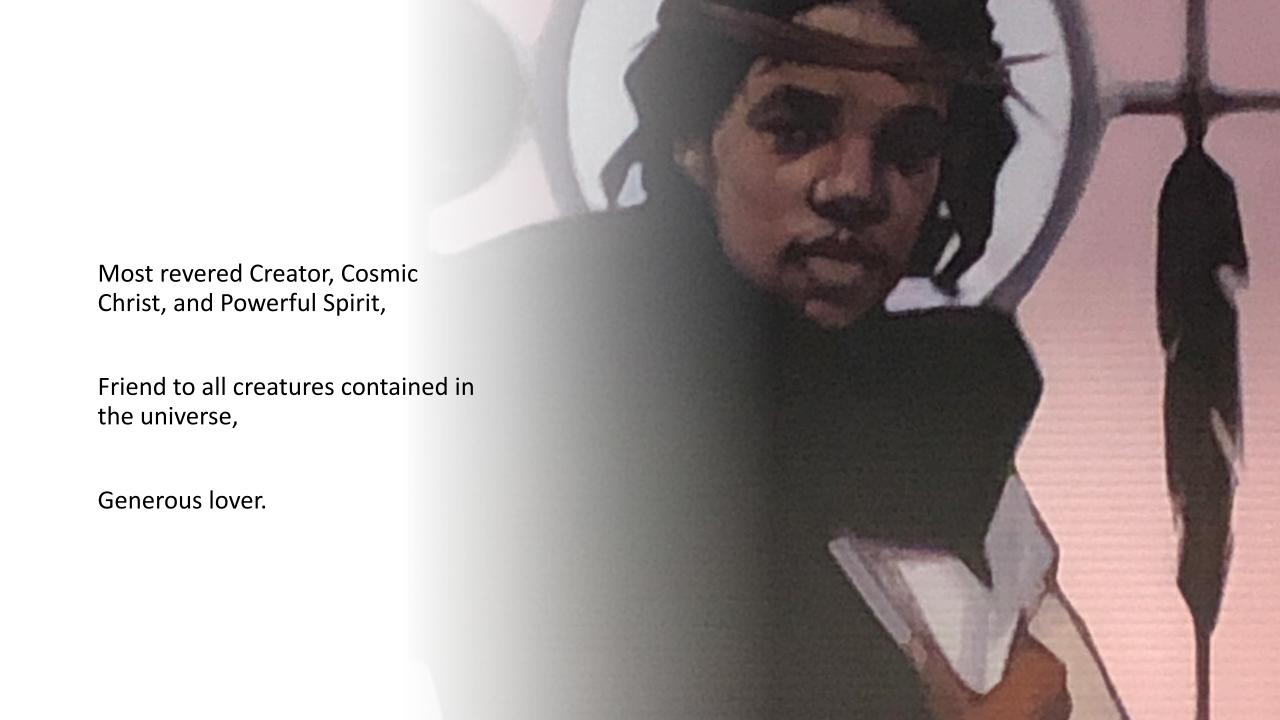
Canticle of the Creatures 2022

By Linda Lysakowski



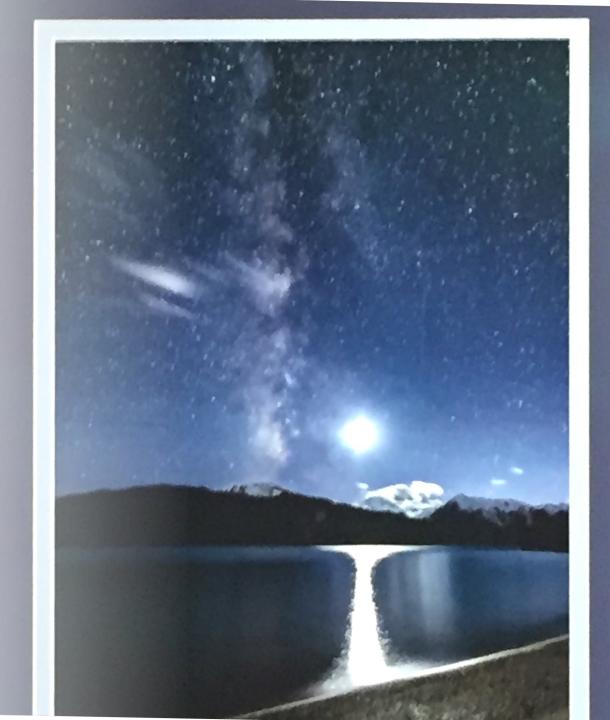


We praise and bless you for the gifts you have given us,

The cosmos, the galaxies,

The stars, planets, and heavenly bodies we see through the most powerful telescopes.

Photo credit; Ben Downing



The stars, including our own Brother Sun, our Sister Moon, our Sister Earth.



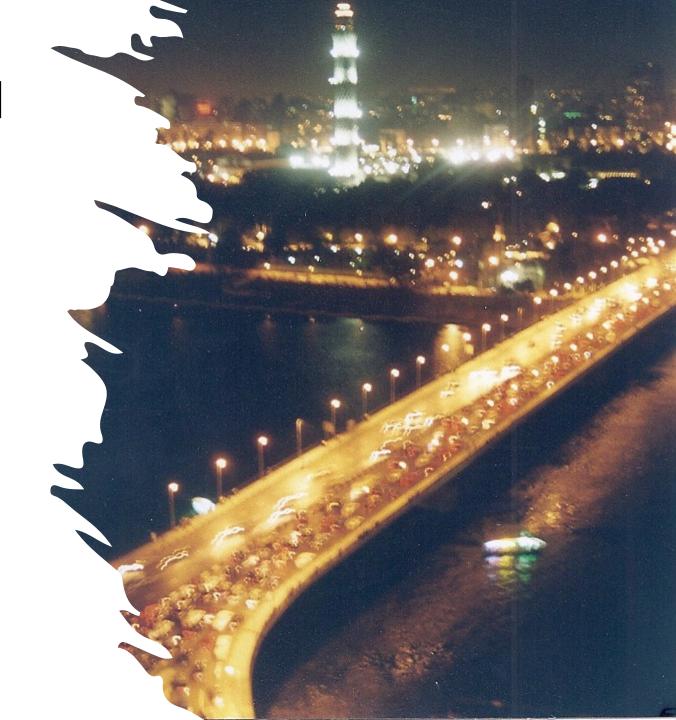
We have squandered, abused, and underappreciated your gifts

We ask your forgiveness of our ignorance, our self-centeredness, our selfishness.



We have neglected and abused Sister Earth

We build highways for our convenience, and destroy the habitat of desert turtles, deer, and other creatures because we feel we have dominion over the animals.





We have polluted Sister Water

We have thrown our trash into her oceans,

We have dumped harmful chemicals in her rivers,

We have not even preserved our own drinking water, resulting in us filling Sister Earth with plastic water bottles.

We have used Brother Fire for destructive purposes

We created nuclear bombs that destroyed countless numbers of your creatures, human and other forms of life, as well as Sister Earth.



We fail to listen to Brother Wind

When he whispers truth in our ear through his gentle murmurings,

And even when we know we can harness his power into creating alternatives forms of energy.



We have destroyed your many gifts of vegetation

The ancient trees, the flowers, the good and helpful plants.



We have displaced and destroyed your creatures

The bumble bee, the endangered mammals, the fish of the sea, and even our fellow humans.

We have torn down the rain forests because of our greed and avarice.

We destroy the very plants and animals through which we could cure human sickness.



We fail to consider future generations of humans and other creatures

Can they survive if we don't renew our respect for all life?



Help us, Blessed Creator

Open our eyes to act before it is too late.

Let us trust science, and You, to show us the truth.

Let us not dwell on our future home with You, but to act now on behalf of future generations.



We know that your omnipotent and never-ending Love will show us the way

Let us act on behalf of Sister Earth, and all the generations of creatures who will follow us,

After we give ourselves over to Sister Death.

