

## A Call for Wilderness Stewardship from St. Mark's Episcopal Church



Spiritually seeing the scenery of southern Utah gives me a feeling of rebirth. How splendid we can feel surrounded by the beauty only God can create. We must save these lands for the future generations. Heaven exists here on our own lands in Utah!

*Sheila M. Bilbrey*

The profound beauty of our precious landscapes delights my senses and inspires my soul. I am filled with gratitude and want to share this enjoyment with others, including future generations even after I am gone.

*Tiffancy Jacobs*

These lovely places instill in me a wonderful sense of awe and peace.

*Betty Stone*

Time past and time present

Slow, a continuum

So much to know

So much we do not know.

Inspiring, freeing, precious

*Helen Macdonald*

I believe that much of the angst we feel as human beings results from our feeling of being separate from all the natural landscapes that surround us. I believe that we can't feel connected to God if we are disconnected from God's creation.

*The Reverend Canon Diana Johnson*

I was down in Torrey once and I remember how the sun raced in between the clouds to reflect itself dancing on the cliffs – as if to remind me – I am here to warm you, surprise you, and remind you that I am present.

*Elvira Charles*

There exists an inner peace and special quality that emerges when viewing part of God's creation while alone. It is an experience of awe, difficult to verbalize, an out of body sensation. No ego. No self. The essence of God!

*Nancy Liium*

My first confirmation that God exists came to me while standing at a wilderness vista. Each time I am in the wilderness, that confirmation is reaffirmed. I want my grandchildren and their children to have the opportunity to experience God in this way.

*Bill Leach*

Irreplaceable beauty but so fragile – it needs our protection against the “proffiti” of a “civilization” gone astray.

*Adrian Comollo*

Our canyons and wilderness must be protected at all costs, because our natural and historical heritage can never be replaced.

*Christopher Wootton*

I go to southern Utah to renew. We connect as family. My children can be free. I don't want to lose this opportunity.

*Kelly Brown*

The wildlands of Utah are my spiritual home. They move me more than the great Cathedrals of Europe. I hope they are there to inspire my children.

*Eli Powell*

God's gifts began with Nature!

*Bryn Ramjoue*

Camping for all family and a lot more.

*William F. Sessions*

When in Utah's wildlands, I connect strongly with God and all His amazing gifts. It makes me appreciate the earth and all those who inhabit it more and makes me realize my role in helping to create a more harmonious world. We are of the earth.

*Mary Paul*

Growing up in Utah, I loved the mountains. My father was a fisherman. I spent a lot of time with him in wild places. Enjoy nature! The beauty of Utah is non-sectarian.

*Bev Haffer*

These lands put a smile in my heart and a calmness in my soul.

*Paula Gardner*

Wild land is holy land, consecrated by virtue of its untouched nature – it is as God created it. As humans we need to honor the sanctity, the purity of God's creation. I go to the wilderness to be with God, to ponder and to pray – as did the prophets and holy people, the people of God for thousands of years. I need the wilderness for wholeness. Keep the wilderness whole and holy that I and all people can find the holy and wholeness in it.

*Camille Biexu*

I love this land and its formations.

*Libby Middletown*

Only in the wide open spaces of wilderness can I connect to the wildness of the Holy! This connection allows me to know myself in nature and in God!

*Jennifer Hammargren*

I love feeling at peace with the world by digging in some red rock dirt.

*Milora Paul (age 2)*

I like to do triathlons in southern Utah. To see the country up close while I run and bike gives me a great pleasure.

*Ron Macdonald*

It's not just about us!

*Chris LeCluyse*

These beautiful places are God's reminders of His love of us, His people. To protect them is to honor that love. Bless these holy places and bless our earth, His creation.

*Anne Stewart March*