



## Atawhaingia a Papatūānuku

### Mercy to Earth #3

### Celebrating Sky

#### Preparation

*This prayer could take place outside where children can see the sky. Have a bowl of water available. Whether outside or inside, offer an opportunity for children to think about the gifts the skies offer – they are vaster than what we see, stretching into outer space. If inside, create a Mercy prayer space holding symbols of the skies and a bowl/s of water.*

#### PRAYER TIME

##### Leader:

This week in the Season of Creation we celebrate with the skies.  
We celebrate with the clouds and winds, with dusk and dawn.  
We listen to the sounds of sky reminding us of divine presence.  
The sky is huge, reaching deep into space, so huge it fills us with awe and wonder.  
And we give thanks for this fragile piece of stardust we live on and call Earth.

##### Blessing:

In the name of the Creator, who colours the sky,  
of Jesus, who walked in the open air,  
and of the Spirit, the wind in the sky.  
Amen.

##### Litany:

Blessed be the pale orange skies at dawn and the bold red skies at sunset.

**Response: We give thanks!**

Blessed be the sky across the globe reminding us of sacred presence with the evening stars.

**Response: We give thanks!**

Blessed be the air, the moisture, the oxygen, and the wind.

**Response: We give thanks!**

Blessed be the life-giving drops of rain, that give hope and healing to Earth.

**Response: We give thanks!**



**Waiata:**

Awesome God, by Chris Skinner [www.chrisiskinner.org.nz](http://www.chrisiskinner.org.nz)

**Psalm 19:**

(adapted from Psalms for Praying by Nan Merrill)

**The heavens declare beauty; the wide sky proclaims love.**

**Sharing gifts of the sky**

Those gathered may like to share a story of the sky; watching the sky light up with stars after sunset; or camping; or stargazing; or cloud shapes.

(After each 2nd or 3rd sharing, prayer the psalm line together.)

**Leader:**

Rain falls from the sky, watering the earth.

As the bowl/s of water are carried to each person, you are invited to gently sprinkle some water over yourself in blessing while we all sing Awesome God.

**Waiata:**

Awesome God

**Blessing:**

As at the beginning.

