**Universal Prayers**

By The Rev Anthea Ballam

**To the Universal Divinity**

I call upon the One  
And the spirits and souls  
Both visible and invisible  
Great and small  
That embody the forces  
Of love and wisdom.

I ask you  
To love us -  
Care for us -  
Heal us -  
And sanctify us.  
For it is you  
Above all things  
I love -  
With all my heart  
And all my mind.

May this blessing be revealed  
By the divinity of my true self  
And may the light within me  
Shine now  
And for always.

**Open the Heart**

Open up:  
To the sky -  
To the sea -  
To a child  
To your sister  
To the world.

Unfasten your soul:  
And hear the sweet song of a bird.

When you step into the open air -  
The breeze brushes your cheek like a lover  
And when you stop and listen  
The wind will call you  
The rustling leaves  
Will speak of tranquillity -  
Recalling water and the gentle tide.

If you close your eyes  
You will make a discovery:  
The world knows you are there -  
It knows you as a child  
Or maybe an ancient tree  
Holding a thousand spirits  
In the loving embrace of your branches.

When you hear these words of love  
You will see the flower I gave you,  
You will breath in its fragrance,  
Admire its beauty,  
While it rests in the palm of your hand.  
How fragile and delicate it seems!  
Open, perfect, light as a feather  
Radiant as sunshine  
Mysterious as a moonbeam.

The flower is the wisdom of your heart  
It grows in the garden of time without end  
Nurtured by the One that cares;  
It is the force of love -  
The passion that made us all  
In the mysterious garden of the universe.

Open up  
And be blessed,  
Joining with the Spirit, with love, as One.