

**State Senate Prayer  
March 10, 2016  
Bishop Richard Pates**

**I am grateful to Senator Charles Schneider for giving me the opportunity to lead prayer among you today. I preface the prayer with an expression of heartfelt thanks for the valuable service you provide the citizens of Iowa.**

**Let us Pray:**

**O God we render praise and glory to you for the splendid gift and beauty of creation which we are particularly aware of during these sunny Iowa days announcing the coming of spring.**

**Engage us in commitment to preserving your beneficence intended for use by all of your beloved creatures – we humans and all the others who exist solely by virtue of your generous will and guiding hand.**

**May we be attentive to our responsibility to maintain those elements of creation that are essential for life: freshness of air, purity of water, fertility of soil.**

**Amen**