

**Written by Rev. Julie Songer Belman for the Atlanta Hospice  
Garden Dedication on October 29, 2009.**

God of wonder, your amazing love extends through time and space. We give you thanks for the mystery of creation and for the miracle of life. We praise you for continuing to create and recreate forever, healing what is broken, and making all things new.

Your covenant with us is remembered in every rainbow in the sky, symbolizing your promise of love and blessing to every living creature. Help us to recognize the interconnectedness we humans share with the oceans, mountains, and deserts; with the forest, feathered and furry creatures.

In this place and in the great world around us, we pray for the sanctuary-seekers and refugees in our midst. May their daily needs be met, Lord, and may their anxieties and uncertainty be replaced with your peace.

We remember the words of comfort spoken by your son, Jesus, that in your house, O God, there are many rooms. You make room for every one of us, and you call us to do the same. May this special community be enriched by the many people who call it home and all who serve here in your Holy Name. Bless us all with the Spirit of hospitality and abounding love.

As we dedicate this memorial garden, in loving memory of Frank Joseph Thiebaut, we thank you once again for the gift of life. Bless, O God, this garden – may it be a place of comfort and peace to all who visit. There is so much beauty surrounding us – may it open our eyes to the glory of life. And may this night awaken in us a deeper yearning to know you, may it renew our hope and faith. Lead us closer to you, Lord, and to your purpose for our lives– to do justice, love mercy, kindness, and walk humbly with you.

We lift up all this to you, Holy God, the Lord of Creation, of Compassion, of Peace.

**Amen.**