Genesis 1:1-2:4a

In the beginning

God created

the heavens

and the earth.

But the earth became chaos and emptiness, and darkness came over the face of the Deep—yet the spirit of God was brooding over the surface of the waters.

Then God said, “Light: Be!” and light was. God saw that light was good, and God separated the light from darkness. God called the light “Day” and the darkness “night.” Evening cam, and morning followed—the first day.

Then God said, “Now, make an expanse between the waters! Separate water from water!” So it was. God made the expamse and separated the water above the expanse from the water below it. God called the expanse “Sky.” Evening came, and morning followed—the second day.

Then God said, “Waters under the sky: be gathered into one place! Dry ground: appear!” So it was: God called the dry ground “Earth” and the gathering of the waters “Sea.” And God saw that it was good. Then God said, “Earth produce vegetation—plants that scatter their own seeds, and every kind of fruit tree on earth that bears fruit with its seed in it. And God sa that this was good. Evening came, and morning followed—the third day.

Then God said, “Now let there be lights in the expanseof the sky! Separate day from night! Let them mark the sign and seasons, days and years, and serve as luminaries in the sky, shedding light on the earth.” So it was: God made the two great lights, the greater on to illumine the day, and a lesser to illumine the night. Then God made the stars as weel, placing them in the expanse of the sky, to shed light on the earth, to govern both day and night, and separate light from darkness. And God saw that this was good. Evening came, and morning followed – the fourth day.

“God then said, “Waters: swarm with an abundance of living beings! Birds: fly above the earth n the open expanse of the sky!” And so it was: God created great sea monsters and all sorts of swimming creatures with which the waters are filled and blessed them, saying, “Bear fruit, increase your numbers, and fill the waters of the seas! Birds, abound on the earth!” Evening came, and morning followed—the fifth day.

Then God said, “Earth: bring forth all kinds of living soul—cattle, things that crawl, an wild animals of all kinds!” So it was: God made all kinds of wild animals, and cattle, and everything that crawls on the ground, and God saw that it was good.

Then God said, let us make humankind in our image, to be like us. Let them be stewards of the fish in the sea, the birds of the air, the cattle, the wild animals, and everything that crawls on the ground.

Humankind was created as God’s reflection:

in the divine image God created them;

female and male, God made them.

God blessed them and said, “Bear fruit, increase your numbers, fill the earth—and be responsible for it! Watch over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and all the living things on earth! God then told them, “Look! I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the earth, and every tree whose fruit carries its seed inside itself: they will be your food; and to all the animals of the earth and the birds of the air and things that crawl on the ground—everything that has a living soul in it—I give a the green pants for food.” So it was. God looked at all of this creation, and proclaimed that this was good—very good. Evening came, and morning followed—the sixth day.

2. Thus the heavens and the earth and all their array were completed. On the seventh day God had finished all the work of creations, and so, on that seventh day, God rested. God blessed the seventh day and called it sacred, because on it God rested form all the work of creation.

These are the generations (our family history) of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

Matthew 28:16-20

The Eleven made their way to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had summoned them. At the sight of the risen Christ they fell down in homage, though some doubted what they were seeing. Jesus came forward and addressed them in these words:

“All authority has been given to me

both in heaven and on earth;

go therefore, and make disciples of all nations.

Baptize them in the name of Abba God,

and of the Only Begotten,

and of the Holy Spirit.

Teach them to carry out

Everything I have commanded you.

And now that I am with you always,

even until the end of the world!”