

***Evangelical Lutheran Worship: Pastoral Care provisional resources***  
**Readings and Prayers for Various Circumstances**

*These resources from Evangelical Lutheran Worship: Pastoral Care provisional resources may be helpful in times of crisis. The complete provisional text is found at [www.elca.org/worship](http://www.elca.org/worship).*

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**8.4.1. Anxiety, apprehension, fear**

Psalm 4 *Answer me when I call*

Psalm 27 *The Lord is my light and salvation*

Psalm 46 *God is our refuge and strength*

Psalm 91 *The shelter of the Most High*

Psalm 121 *I lift up my eyes to the hills*

Isaiah 43:1-3a *I have called you by name*

Lamentations 3:55-58 *I call on your name from the depths*

Matthew 6:25-34 *Do not be anxious*

John 10:11-18 *I am the Good Shepherd*

John 14:1-3 *In my Father's house*

Romans 8:31-35, 37-39 *Who will separate us from the love of Christ*

Philippians 4:4-7 *Rejoice in the Lord always*

Almighty and merciful God, our only source of health and healing, who alone can bring calmness and peace: Grant to us, your children, a consciousness of your presence and a strong confidence in you. In our pain, our weariness, and our anxiety, surround us with your care, protect us by your loving might, and permit us once more to enjoy health and strength and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (8.4.1.1.)

O most loving Father, you want us to give thanks for all things, to fear nothing except losing you, and to lay all our cares on you, knowing that you care for us. Grant that fears and anxieties in this mortal life may not hide from us the light of your immortal love shown to us in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (8.4.1.2)

**8.4.5. Desolation, despair**

Psalm 13 *How long, O Lord?*

Psalm 22 *Why have you forsaken me?*

Psalm 88 *My soul is full of troubles*

Jeremiah 20:7-13 *The Lord is with me*

Romans 8:31-35, 37-39 *Who will separate us from the love of Christ*

2 Corinthians 1:3-7 *God comforts us in all our sorrows*

Colossians 1:19-23 *All things reconciled to God*

Hebrews 4:14-16 *We have a high priest who sympathizes with weakness*

1 John 5:14-15 *God hears in whatever we ask*

Lord Jesus Christ, you came into the world as one of us, and suffered as we do. As we go through the trials of life, help us to realize that you are with us at all times and in all things; that we have no secrets from you; and that your living grace enfolds us for eternity. In the security of your embrace we pray. (8.4.5.1)

### **8.4.9. Guidance, protection**

Psalm 27 *The Lord is my light and salvation*

Psalm 46 *God is our refuge and strength*

Psalm 87 *Glorious things of you are spoken*

Isaiah 41:9b-10 *Fear not, I am with you*

Lamentations 3:22-26 *The steadfast love of the Lord*

Matthew 11:28-30 *I will give you rest*

Luke 4:1-12 *The temptation of Jesus*

John 10:27-30 *My sheep hear my voice*

Romans 8:31-35, 37-39 *Who will separate us from the love of Christ*

2 Thessalonians 3:3 *The Lord is faithful and will guard you*

Hebrews 13:5-6 *God will never forsake you*

Write your blessed name, O Lord, upon my heart, there to remain so indelibly graven that no prosperity, no adversity, shall ever move me from your love. Be to me a strong tower of defense, a comforter in tribulation, a deliverer in distress, a very present help in trouble, and a guide to heaven through the many temptations and dangers of this life. (8.4.9.1.)

My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. I know that you will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it. Therefore will I trust you always, though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me. And you will never leave me to face my struggles alone. (8.4.9.2)

### **8.4.38. Time of conflict, crisis, disaster**

Psalm 42:1-3 *My soul thirsts for the living God*

Psalm 46 *God is our refuge and strength*

Psalm 77 *Seek the Lord in the day of trouble*

Psalm 91 *The shelter of the Most High*

Psalm 140 *Deliver me from the hands of the wicked*

Lamentations 1:1-3 *The city weeps bitterly*

Ephesians 2:13-22 *Christ is our peace*

1 Peter 4:12-13 *Enduring fiery trials*

God, our refuge and strength, you have bound us together in a common life. In all our conflicts, help us to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, to listen for your voice amid competing claims, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (8.4.38.1.)

We pray to you almighty God, in this time of \_\_\_\_\_. You are our refuge and our strength, a very present help in time of trouble. Do not let us fail in the face of these events. Uphold us with your love, and give us the strength we need. Help us in our confusion, and guide our actions. Heal the hurt, console the bereaved and afflicted, protect the innocent and helpless, and deliver any who are still in peril; for the sake of your great mercy in Jesus Christ our Lord. (8.4.38.2.)