



Worship and Liturgical Resources

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Litanies and Prayers

Centered on HIV/AIDS and Malaria, including annual commemorations

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The following litanies and prayer petitions center on the concerns of HIV/AIDS and Malaria in our world. For annual commemorations (World AIDS Day, Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS, National Testing Day for HIV/AIDS), one or more litanies are offered.

Prayer petitions, in the style of the week's Prayers of Intercession from Sundays and Seasons 2011 resources are offered bi-weekly throughout the church year alternating between prayers for HIV/AIDS and Malaria. See www.sundaysandseasons.com.

December 1, 2010

World AIDS Day

Litany (could be used November 28 or December 5)

We gather in your name,

Let us walk in your light.

We center ourselves in you,

Let us walk in your light.

We wait for your coming again,

Let us walk in your light.

We give thanks for your promises,

Let us walk in your light.

We struggle with our sins,

Let us walk in your light.

We desire faithfulness in our relationships,

Let us walk in your light.

We long for compassion for the lost, forgotten, and forsaken,

Let us walk in your light.

We want compassion for the sick and the needy,

Let us walk in your light.

We mourn with the orphaned and widowed,

Let us walk in your light.

We remember our neighbors around the world,

Let us walk in your light.

We ask for your unconditional love for those we do not tolerate,

Let us walk in your light.

We cry out for peace in war-torn lands,

Let us walk in your light.

We yearn for wholeness for our bodies, hearts, and minds,

Let us walk in your light.

We grieve for those who have died,

Let us walk in your light.

We seek your healing from all disease,

Let us walk in your light.

We beg for wisdom for doctors, generosity from corporations, inspiration for scientists, and endurance for care-givers,

Let us walk in your light.

We place our lives in your hands; shape us with your purpose,

Let us walk in your light.

We put all our hope in you, O God. We trust in your mercy and find comfort in your grace. As we commemorate World AIDS Day we pray for your light to enter into the world and shine brighter than any darkness. Let it be a pathway illuminated by your love.

Let us walk in your light, Amen.

Sunday, November 28, 2010

You make us bold to pray for that which may seem to be impossible. As we remember all those who have died and suffered from the effects of AIDS (especially...) we pray that you bring an end to the suffering and a cure for the disease.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Sunday, December 12, 2010

Strengthen the weak and bring joy to the suffering especially those infected with and affected by Malaria. Shower them with the resources they need so that their healing may be a sign of your good news.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Sunday, December 26, 2010

O God, be a healing balm to all those who have been impacted by Hiv and AIDS (*especially*). Infect us all with your healing love and generous compassion.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Sunday, January 9, 2011

That you awaken us to needs of those made ill by diseased waters, especially your children suffering from Malaria, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God

Or

That clean waters and healing may spring forth in regions suffering the devastation of Malaria, let us pray.

hear our prayer.

Sunday, January 23, 2011

For the church in its ministry of healing, that it may be united in prayer and service on behalf of our brothers and sisters living with HIV/AIDS.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Sunday, February 6

Strengthen your children afflicted with malaria and those who advocate in their name, that they may know your restorative power.

Let us pray,

Have mercy, God.

Sunday, February 20

That we love without reserve those suffering from HIV and AIDS, both the neighbor and the stranger, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS – March 6-13

Sunday, March 6, 2011 (Transfiguration) Litany

Gracious God,
you have called us together to worship.
Reveal your presence to us now.

We answered your call
to hear your word and taste a foretaste of the feast to come.
Reveal your presence to us now.

We come burdened by suffering and fear
hungry to know hope and healing.
Reveal your presence to us now.

We carry the affliction of our brothers and sisters
who suffer illness and disease,
especially HIV and AIDS.
Reveal your presence to us now.

We yearn for peace and reconciliation,
an end to death and affliction.
We yearn for the promise of life and love
you have shown us in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
Reveal your presence to us now.
Amen.

Sunday, March 6, 2011 (Transfiguration)

Heal those who suffer from HIV and AIDS. Grant wisdom to researchers, compassion to caregivers and endurance to all those who are affected by the disease, that all may have hope in new life.
Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Wednesday, March 9, 2011 (Ash Wednesday)

Inspire doctors and researches to find effective treatments for those suffering from HIV and AIDS. Enliven us with compassion to act on behalf of those who live in sickness, silence and shame.
God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Sunday, March 13, 2011 – Litany

In the beginning,
God created the heavens and the earth and all living creatures.
With delight, God entrusted the abundant gardens to humanity.
Mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD. (Psalm 32:10b)

But because of pride and ambition, self-centeredness and arrogance,
humanity turned away – and continues to turn away – from God.
But God calls us back into grace again and again.
Mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.

We suffer in sickness and hopelessness.
We watch as many suffer with HIV and AIDS.
But God has the power to restore healing and strength.
Mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.

Jesus Christ was given as a gift to bear our suffering and death
in order to grant life and hope for the sake of the world.
The gift of righteousness and salvation is freely given in Christ.
Mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.
Amen.

Sunday, March 13, 2011

You heal the sick and lift up those who are bowed down. Draw unto yourself those who are sick and weighed down by the effects of HIV and AIDS. Strengthen those who seek a cure, those who care for the sick and those who watch after the loved ones who are left behind.
God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Sunday, March 27, 2011

We pray for those in need of life-saving resources: vaccines, medications, medical facilities, trained medical personnel, and medical equipment; especially those who are impacted by Malaria.
God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Sunday, April 10, 2011

You bring healing and hope to those who suffer. Strengthen the community with your constant love especially in our relationships with those who are HIV positive or who have AIDS.
God of mercy,
hear our prayer.

Sunday, April 24, 2011 (Easter Sunday)

Awaken us to the promise of new and renewed life that accompanies our Lord's resurrection. Stir up hope in all who suffer with malaria, and renew the zeal of those who research cures and treatments, that through their lives and work the world might behold the promise of Christ's resurrection for today.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

May 1, 2011

Alleluia! We thank you for all who, like Thomas, seek knowledge. Grant faith and wisdom to all who tirelessly search for a cure to malaria. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

May 15, 2011

Shepherd us, O God. Gather your people into a new day where HIV/AIDS is not known. Until that day comes, give strength to all who live with HIV/AIDS, wisdom to all who work with those infected, and compassion to communities divided by stigma and prejudice.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

May 29, 2011

You promise to come to us, but we fail to seek your presence. Transform us by your love to seek you and serve you in the world, especially in those areas ravaged by malaria. By your Spirit of truth guide doctors and researchers to find a cure to malaria, and grant to the leaders of the world a will to support the eradication of this disease.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

June 12, 2011 (Day of Pentecost)

Come, Holy Spirit, into communities divided by prejudice and fear of those living with HIV/AIDS. Forgive us our sins of ignorance and neglect, and give the us words to speak of God's deeds of power to all who despair and suffer. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

June 26, 2011

Let us pray for those who will be tested for HIV/AIDS that all will feel your comfort and care as they await results. Grant us wisdom to respond to the life ahead of us.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

June 27 - National Testing Day (HIV and AIDS)

Litany – can be used Sunday, June 26

Gathering Litany

God comes to us in the waters of baptism, rushing to fill our lives with the Spirit.

Refresh us, O Lord.

God comes to us in the words of the prophets, the language of the gospels.

Speak to us, O Lord.

God comes to us in the clamoring voices of children, the needs of the world.

Slow us down, O Lord.

God comes to us in the uncertainty of the future, the uneasy times of waiting.

Comfort us, O Lord.

God comes to us in the bread and wine of the table, signs of mercy and grace for all.

Feed us, O Lord.

Sending Litany

We have splashed in the waters and be cleansed of our sin.

Refreshed, we serve you, O Lord.

We have heard your Word spoken through our generations.

Inspired, we serve you, O Lord.

We are reminded that you are among the young, the frail and those in need.

Eyes open, we serve you, O Lord.

We live with the assurance of your love during uncertain times.

Confident, we serve you, O Lord.

We are full with your promises of forgiveness and grace.

Ready, we serve you, O Lord.

July 10, 2011

Let us pray for people around the world struggling with malaria, that they might know your comfort and healing. Strengthen relief workers and plant in all of us the desire to prevent the spread of malaria.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

July 24, 2011

Let us pray for all affected by HIV/AIDS: patients, families, and friends. Grant hope and comfort for all who suffer that they might find rest. Open the eyes of those who research that new insight would be found.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

August 7, 2011

Your voice of calm quiets the raging seas. Comfort the sick, especially the victims of Malaria.

May we be messengers of healing and hope amid illness and despair.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

August 21, 2011

We give thanks for our bodies, holy in your sight. Deliver those whose bodies cry out for healing, especially those living with HIV/AIDS. May your church be one body attentive the needs of each member.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

September 4, 2011

Bless the work of missionaries, prophets and relief workers, and all who work to eradicate poverty and its effects, especially diseases such as Malaria. With your help, turn us from love of self to love of neighbor.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Sunday, September 18

Hear the cries of your people, especially those suffering with HIV/AIDS. In the midst of anger and pain, reveal your promise of mercy. In the midst of death, reveal your abundant life.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

October 2, 2011

Root us, O God, in your grace and mercy that our lives might grow to provide shade and protections for others, especially for our sisters and brothers living with HIV, AIDS, and malaria around the world. Lord, in your mercy.

Hear us, God.

October 16, 2011 (or Luke, Evangelist – October 18)

Litany:

(This litany may be used during the sending portion of the liturgy as the Final Blessing).

The presiding minister begins:

God of grace and mercy, you have named us.

We are your children.

You go before us. You level the mountains and break down the barriers that divide.

Guide us to walk in your ways and to break down the stigma of HIV and AIDS.

You create light and darkness.

Make us to shine with Christ's light.

You send us now in the name of + the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit to be the body of Christ in the world.

As Christ was broken, break us now to bring healing to our sisters and brothers living with HIV and AIDS and wholeness to the all of your creation.

Amen.

October 16, 2011

God who names us, you regard your people with no partiality. Give us eyes to see through the stigma of HIV/AIDS and to call our sisters and brothers living with HIV and AIDS by the name you give them—your beloved children, full of grace and glory.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

November 6, 2011 (All Saints Sunday)

God of unity, you wash us in the blood of the lamb and make us one body. When one member suffers, we all suffer together. Open our eyes to see that the body of Christ has AIDS. Guide us to work towards health and wholeness for the whole of our body.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

November 20, 2011 (Christ the King)

God of all nations, you bind up the injured and rescue the lost. Empower us to use our resources and our very lives as agents of your healing, especially for our sisters and brothers living with malaria, HIV, and AIDS throughout the world.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.