



Prayer and Worship Resources for Natural Disasters

October 1, 2009

Prayers for Worship

A prayer that may be added to the Intercessory Prayers of the congregation:

Gracious God, you are our refuge and strength, a very present help in time of trouble.
In the wake of storms and natural disasters

[in the Samoan Islands, the Philippines, and Indonesia,]

reveal your presence so that all may know your healing, hope, and love.

As one community on earth bound together by your grace,
inspire us to pray, serve, and help all those who suffer.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Two petitions that are best added to “Prayers of Intercession” from *Sundays and Seasons 2009*:

For those who suffer from natural disasters around the world,

[from tsunamis, earthquakes, monsoons, and typhoons,]

that devastation and mourning give way to peace, relief, restoration, and hope.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For those who respond disasters and crisis,

that they may be strengthened to serve

revealing your love and care for all of your children.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Prayers for other occasions

Praying for those suffering from storms or natural disasters

Loving God,
in the communion of Christ, we are joined with the trials and sufferings of all.
Be with those who endure the *wind and rain [the devastation of earthquakes]*.
Protect those in the path of danger.
Open the pathway of evacuations.
Help loved ones find one another in the chaos.
Provide assistance to those who need help.
Ease the fears of all and make your presence known in the stillness of your peace;
Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Especially for those who were directly impacted by the storms or flooding.

Merciful God,
Hear our cry for mercy in the wake of *wind and water*.
Reveal your presence in the midst of our suffering.
Help us to trust in your promises of hope and life
so that desperation and grief will not overtake us.
Come quickly to our aid that we may know peace and joy again.
Strengthen us in this time of trial
with assurance of hope we know in the death and resurrection
of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Especially for those in areas that were not directly impacted by the storms or flooding.

Gracious God,
Your word of peace stills the storms that rage in our world.
Bring hope to places that know devastation in the calm after *the storm*.
Bring comfort to those who grieve the loss of loved ones and property.
Let your love be known through those who work to bring order in the chaos.
Help us to shoulder the burden of suffering
And make us bearers of the hope that can be found in you
Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for those in the midst of storms or natural disasters

Merciful God,
when the storms rage and threaten to overtake us,
awaken our faith to know the power of your peace.
Deliver us from our fear and ease our anxiety.
Help us to endure the time of uncertainty
and give us strength to face the challenges ahead.
Give us the assurance of your presence even in this time
so that we can cling to your promise of hope and life shown to us
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

O God,
who in Jesus stills the storm and soothes the troubled heart,
bring hope and courage to all
who are affected by this *flood [earthquake]* as we wait in uncertainty.
Bring assurance that you will be with us in whatever lies ahead.
Give us courage to endure all that we now face,
for you are our refuge and strength.
You are God, and we need you.
We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
(adapted from *ELW Pastoral Care*, page 174)

Prayer after a Flood

Loving God, we come to you trusting in your mercy
and knowing that your steadfast love endures forever.
Look with mercy on those who are harmed or displaced by flood waters.
Give them your strength to meet the days ahead,
your peace which passes all understanding
and new hope in the resurrection.
Move in those who are able to give aid,
that we may be your hands and heart on earth.
Be with all who offer assistance, may your Spirit may uphold them.
As you have made water a sign of your kingdom,
and of cleansing and rebirth,
grant your people vision to see new life on the other side of disaster.
To you be given all honor and praise, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.
(by *Pastor Kay Braun*, adapted)

Hymns and Songs

ELW 794	Calm to the Waves
ELW 755	Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me
ELW 767	Lord, take my hand and lead me
ELW 701	Once We Sang and Danced
ELW 702	You, Dear Lord
ELW 618	Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer
ELW 626	By Gracious Powers
ELW 639	When We Are Living (Pues si vivimos)
ELW 698	How Long, O God
ELW 699	In Deepest Night
ELW 405	O Spirit of Life
ELW 404	Come, Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove

Additional hymns may be found in the LAMENT, HEALING, and HOPE, ASSURANCE sections of *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* hymns.