Worship Resources for Earthquakes
Prepared in response to the earthquake in Haiti on January 12, 2010.

Prayers

Time of community mourning
God our creator,
through whose providing care we enjoy all goodness and life, turn our
eyes to your mercy in this time of confusion and loss.
Comfort those who mourn the loss of loved ones because of the earthquake; shine your
light on those whose only companion is darkness;
and teach us all so to number our days that we may apply our hearts to your wisdom;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.
(Adapted from ELW, pew edition, page 77)

National distress
Eternal God,
amid all the turmoil and changes of the world
your love is steadfast and your strength never fails.
In this time of danger and trouble, be to us a sure guardian. Guide
the leaders of the nations with your wisdom, comfort those in
distress,
and grant courage and hope to face the future; through
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.
(adapted from ELW, pew edition, page 76)

Praying for those suffering
Loving God,
in the communion of Christ, we are joined with the trials and sufferings of all. Be with
those who endure the effects of the earthquake in Haiti.
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.
Prayer in the midst of natural disasters
Merciful God,
when the chaos of natural disaster threatens 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 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 disaster
Especially for those who were directly impacted by the earthquake.
Merciful God,
Hear our cry for mercy in the wake of the earthquake. 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 the assurance of hope we know in the death and resurrection of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prayer after disaster
Especially for those in areas that were not directly impacted by the earthquake.
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 earthquake. 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.

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Additional Prayers for Sundays and Seasons Prayers of Intercession

January 17, 2010
O God,
we give you thanks for the revelation of your creative power in our world.
Reveal your love and hope
in the midst of the suffering and chaos in aftermath of the earthquake in Haiti. Give
strength and perseverance to those who offer aid and comfort.
Move us with your compassion to shoulder the burden of crisis with all your children. Lord, in
your mercy,
hear our prayer.

January 24, 2010
O God, you bring good news to those who are despairing.
Help us to hear the cries of those who are enduring trials and suffering because of the
earthquake in Haiti.
Enliven all your children to respond with compassion, aid, and your care so that all may know the hope of your grace.
Fill us with the power of your Spirit. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

January 31, 2010
God of renewing love,
Sustain those who continue to suffer and rebuild after the earthquake in Haiti. Bring hope in the midst of despair.
Grant patience and endurance to those who bring aid and assistance. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

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

ELW 404 Come, Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove
ELW 405 O Spirit of Life
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 701 Once We Sang and Danced
ELW 702 You, Dear Lord (Tú, Señor, que brillas)
ELW 755 Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me
ELW 767 Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me

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