



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

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.

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