



Worship Resources in Time of Drought

Litany in Time of Drought

Holy God, in the wake of drought and extreme temperatures,

Refresh us with the water of life.

In the barren places of dust and aridity,

Restore us with the water of life.

When all we can see is devastation and despair,

Renew us with the water of life.

In Christ, we are washed clean.

We are refreshed.

In Christ, we drink from the wellspring of hope.

We are restored.

In Christ, we dance in the fountain of life.

We are renewed.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Prayers

Agriculture

Abundant God, we give you thanks for the fruitful earth, which produces what is needed for life. Bless those who work in the fields; grant favorable weather to all engaged in agriculture; and help us to ensure that all people share the fruits of the earth, rejoicing in your goodness; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship Occasional Services for the Assembly*, page 400)

In time of scarce rainfall

O God, giver and sustainer of life, in this time of need send us the gift of rain, so that we may receive the fruits of the earth for our benefit and for your praise; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. . (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship Occasional Services for the Assembly*, page 401)



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Prayers of Intercession

These prayers 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.
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.

Sustaining God, you shower your creation with the gifts of your fruitfulness.
Send your gifts of rain and nourishment to areas broken by drought and extreme heat.
Wash them in your goodness so all may know of your care and love.

Hymn Suggestions

The following is a list of suggested hymns that may be appropriate in a variety of communities affected by drought. Pastoral discretion is necessary when determining which hymns might best be used.

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
ELW 400	God of Tempest, God Whirlwind

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

Suggested Readings

Psalm 13 *How long, O Lord?*

Psalm 4 *Answer me when I call*

Psalm 22 *Why have you forsaken me?*

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 88 *My soul is full of troubles*

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

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

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

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



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Romans 8:31-35, 37-39 *Who will separate us from the love of Christ*
Ephesians 2:13-22 *Christ is our peace*
Philippians 4:4-7 *Rejoice in the Lord always*
2 Thessalonians 3:3 *The Lord is faithful and will guard you*
1 John 5:14-15 *God hears in whatever we ask*
Hebrews 13:5-6 *God will never forsake you*

Additional Prayers from Evangelical Lutheran Worship Pastoral Care

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. (*ELW Pastoral Care*, page 386-7)

O most loving Father, you want us to give thanks in all circumstances 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. (*ELW Pastoral Care*, page 359)

God our comforter, you are a refuge and a strength for us, a helper close at hand in times of distress. Enable us so to hear the words of faith that our fear is dispelled, our loneliness eased, our anxiety calmed, and our hope reawakened. May your Holy Spirit lift us above our sorrow to the peace and light of your constant love; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. (*ELW Pastoral Care*, page 360-361)

A prayer of Thomas à Kempis

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. (*ELW Pastoral Care*, page 362)

Direct us, Lord God, in all our doings with your most gracious favor, and extend to us your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. (*ELW Pastoral Care*, page 362)



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