

In a Storm or Natural Disaster

"Lutheran Book of Prayer" (117)

"Heavenly Father, I know Your greatness and my weakness, Your majesty and my unworthiness. By this present disaster, You call us to the knowledge of our sin and to true repentance, lest we forget Your just judgment against sin. Do not let us be condemned with this wicked and evil world. O Lord, I am helpless and need Your protection. For Jesus' sake abide with me. Lift up Your face and be gracious to me in this fearful time of danger, and do not test me beyond my strength. Protect my home and my dear ones, especially those who are weak and helpless. Send Your holy angel, that I may continue safely to my journey's end. Give me faith to cast my anxieties and cares on You, who stills storms and guides the souls of men through every danger, in Jesus' name. Amen."

At a Time of National Crisis or Calamity

"Lutheran Book of Prayer" (106)

"Heavenly Father, I come to Your throne of mercy, bowed down and wearied by the weight of suffering and disaster visited upon our country. I beg You to protect this nation in our hour of need. I acknowledge my trespasses before You and do not deny either my own transgressions of Your holy Law or the sins of other citizens in my homeland. We are laden with iniquity, but You call us to Your forgiveness, salvation, hope, and life. Turn the hearts and minds of all to You, that they might find peace through the cleansing of Jesus' blood. Let me not be confounded or dismayed, so that I, a child of Your grace, may courageously speak to this needy world of the hope that is within me. Make me an instrument of Your peace in a world of conflict, a witness to the power of faith in a world of conflict, a witness to the power of faith in a world lost in unbelief, and a bearer of the joy that overcomes the sorrow of a fallen world. Grant to the leaders of this nation and all the nations of the world wise counsel, calm thinking, and unselfish aims. Amid the tumult of disaster, build Your kingdom and turn even more souls to Yourself. Because of Your grace, we are not altogether lost but find peace and forgiveness in You. O Lord, give me the grace to seek You, trust You, and confess You; in Jesus' name. Amen."

For Public Safety Organizations and Workers

"Lutheran Book of Prayer" (115)

"In accordance with Your Word, O God, my Savior, hear the prayers I pray for all those in authority. As You have ordained these powers so that I might live a quiet, peaceable, and godly life in this present age, prosper them in their blessed vocation as police, fire, and emergency medical officers [as well as all medical personnel]. As they protect, protect them, O Lord, from all harm and danger. Keep them safe in their work. Give them success in preserving the life and property that You have graciously given to us. May they find joy in performing the service You have given them to do. May they be ever mindful of your presence with them, even in their darkest hour. Comfort their loved ones who share them with us and who weep when they weep. When they are weak, give them strength. When they are afraid, give them courage. When they are in doubt, grant them wisdom from above. When they have sinned, grant them repentance and true faith in Christ, who made the ultimate sacrifice in order to save us all from sin and eternal death. Grant them the peace of Christ. Amen."