

Prayer In Time Of Drought

Lord, in Your mercy:

C Hear our prayer.

M We thank You that You have given us this fragile land to use as its stewards and custodians. Help us to take good care of it and its resources, without overcropping, overgrazing and overusing it, so that we can hand it on in a good condition to those who come after us.
Lord, in your mercy:

C Hear our prayer.

M We thank You that You still provide for us and give us all more than enough to eat. Teach us by this drought to depend on You for our living, to rejoice in Your provision for us, and thank You for watering us with your life-giving Spirit. Help us to produce a rich harvest of faith and love for You in this time of drought, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

Other prayers may be offered.

HYMN: # 437 LH "Now Thank We All Our God"

BENEDICTION

M May God, the source of hope, fill you with all joy and peace by means of your faith in Him, so that your hope will continue to grow by the power of the Holy Spirit. And the blessing of God; the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you, and remain with you always.

C Amen.



M In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

HYMN: # 810 LHS "Let All Things Now Living"

M Lord, have mercy;

C Christ, have mercy

M Lord, have mercy.



**All Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be Your name,
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Your's
now and forever. Amen**

PSALM – to be spoken responsively (Ps 57:1, 77:7-12, 143:7-12)

M Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me, for in You my soul takes refuge.

C I will take refuge in the shadow of Your wings until the disaster has passed.

M 'Will the Lord reject forever? Will He never show His favour again?

C Has His unfailing love vanished forever? Has His promise failed for all time?

M Has God forgotten to be merciful? Has He in anger withheld His compassion?

C Then I thought, ‘To this I will appeal: the years of the right hand of the Most high.’

M I will remember the deeds of the Lord: yes, I will remember Your miracles of long ago.

C I will meditate on all Your works and consider all Your mighty deeds.

M Answer me quickly, O Lord; my spirit fails.

C Do not hide Your face from me or I will be like those who go down to the pit.

M Let the morning bring me word of Your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in You.

C Show me the way I should go, for to You I lift up my soul.

M Rescue me from my enemies, O Lord

C for I hide myself in You.

M Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God;

C may Your good spirit lead me on level ground.

P For Your name’s sake, O Lord, preserve my life;

C in Your righteousness, bring me out of my trouble.

M In Your unfailing love, silence my enemies;

C Destroy all my foes, for I am Your servant.

All Glory to the Father and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen.

M The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

M Let us pray:

Almighty God, merciful Father, a very present help in time of trouble, again we are brought to realise that Your thoughts are not our thoughts; Your ways are not our ways. In Your wisdom You have permitted disastrous events to be visited upon us. We implore You, do let not Your people despair, but sustain and comfort them. In season, break this drought and replenish and refresh the earth; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.



WORD OF GOD

Romans 8:18-29

After the reading:

R This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.



PRAYER

M Let us pray.

We thank you, Lord God, the creator of heaven and earth, that You care for this ancient land of Australia with its mountains and plains, its rivers and deserts, its forests and grasslands, its scrub and its wetlands. We thank You for the blessing of rain already received in past times. Please send more life-giving rain to those parts of our land that are parched with drought. Fill its creeks and dams and lakes so that its plants and animals may not die for lack of water. Lord, in Your mercy:

C Hear our prayer.

M We thank You that You have given us crop-land for agriculture and grassland for grazing animals. Give drenching showers of rain to those areas that are groaning under unseasonal and persistent drought, so that the earth may produce its harvest for us and all the animals that depend on it for their livelihood. Lord, in Your mercy:

C Hear our prayer.

M We thank You that You provide abundant food for us through the work of farmers, graziers, and all people engaged in agriculture. Give hope to them and the communities that depend on the land for their livelihood and prosperity. Encourage governments and citizens alike to be compassionate to those in need and ready to lend a hand to them in their difficulties. Lord, in Your mercy:

C Hear our prayer.

M We thank You that You so generously send rain on all people alike, whether they are good or evil, righteous or unrighteous. Forgive us for presuming on Your goodness and taking the precious gift of rain for granted. Teach us to prize the water that you provide for us in this land and to use it wisely, without wasting it and damaging the environment.