



Worship Resources in remembrance of 9/11

The following prayers from Evangelical Lutheran Worship and All Creation Sings may be appropriately inserted into the prayers of intercession, used in pastoral care situations, or drawn upon at other opportunities for prayer.

If a longer service of remembrance is desired, consider using the "Service of Word and Prayer" as a guide (All Creation Sings, p. 42). The resources for lament in All Creation Sings (p. 61), may also be utilized for such a remembrance. These resources are also available to subscribers of sundaysandseasons.com.

Peace

O God, it is your will to hold both heaven and earth in a single peace. Let the design of your great love shine on the waste of our wraths and sorrows, and give peace to your church, peace among nations, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (ELW p. 76)

Gracious and holy God, lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth. Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust. Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace. Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen. (ELW p. 76)

You calm and quiet us, eternal God, as a mother holds her children close; all people have refuge in the shadow of your wings. Spread over us the shelter of your peace. Hold before us the wisdom of your cross, where we are drawn to you not by might or power, but by your boundless love and forgiveness in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen. (ACS, pg. 48)

Holy God, out of your great love for the world, your Word became flesh to live among us and to reconcile us to you and to one another. Rekindle among us the gift of your Spirit so that we seek to live in unity with all people, breaking down the walls that divide, ending the hostility among us, and proclaiming peace to those who are near and to those who are far away; through Christ Jesus, in whom we all have access in the one Spirit to you, both now and forever. Amen. (ACS, pg. 48)

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 and rock of defense. Guide the leaders of our nation with your wisdom, comfort those in distress, and grant us courage and hope to face the future; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen. (ELW p. 76)

Time of conflict, crisis, disaster

God, our refuge and strength, you have bound us together in a common life. In all our conflicts, help us to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, to listen for your voice amid competing claims, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (ELW p. 76)

Time of conflict, crisis, disaster

O God, where hearts are fearful and constricted, grant courage and hope. Where anxiety is infectious and widening, grant peace and reassurance. Where impossibilities close every door and window, grant imagination and resistance. Where distrust twists our thinking, grant healing and illumination. Where spirits are daunted and weakened, grant soaring wings and strengthened dreams. All these things we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen. (ELW p. 76)

Time of civic 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 this nation as we mourn; 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. (ELW p. 77)

Health of body and soul

By your power, great God, our Lord Jesus healed the sick and gave new hope to the hopeless. Though we cannot command or possess your power, we pray for those who want to be healed. Mend their wounds, soothe fevered brows, and make broken people whole again. Help us to welcome every healing as a sign that, though death is against us, you are for us, and have promised renewed and risen life in Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen. (ELW p. 84)

Those in affliction

Lord Christ, you came into the world as one of us, and suffered as we do. As we go through the trials of life, help us to realize that you are with us at all times and in all things; that we have no secrets from you; and that your loving grace enfolds us for eternity. In the security of your embrace we pray. Amen. (ELW p. 84)

Those in emotional distress

Merciful God, you give us the grace that helps in time of need. Surround *name* with your steadfast love and lighten *her/his* burden. By the power of your Spirit, free *her/him* from distress and give *her/him* a new mind and heart made whole in the name of the risen Christ. Amen. (ELW p. 84)

Those who suffer abuse and violence

Holy One, you do not distance yourself from the pain of your people, but in Jesus you bear that pain with all who suffer at others' hands. With your cleansing love bring healing and strength to *name*; and by your justice, lift *her/him* up, that in body, mind, and spirit, *she/he* may again rejoice. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen. (ELW p. 84)

Those in trouble or bereavement

Almighty God, your love never fails, and you can turn the shadow of death into daybreak. Help us to receive your word with believing hearts, so that, confident in your promises, we may have hope and be lifted out of sorrow into the joy and peace of your presence; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen. (ELW p. 84)

Emergency workers

God of earth and air, water and fire, height and depth, we pray for those who work in danger, who rush in to bring hope and help and comfort when others flee to safety, whose mission is to seek and save, serve and protect, and whose presence embodies the protection of the Good Shepherd. Give them caution and concern for one another, so that in safety they may do what must be done, under your watchful eye. Support them in their courage and dedication that they may continue to save lives, ease pain, and mend the torn fabric of lives and social order; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *(ELW p. 85)*

Guidance

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. Amen. *(ELW p. 86)*

Young persons

Lord God of our ancestors, we thank you for what you have done and will continue to do with our daughters and sons. Walk with them in life, and keep the evil one from obstructing their path. You see all; you know where the water is deep. Keep them from danger. Order their steps and guide their feet while they run the race of faith. May the good work that you have begun in them be brought to completion at the day of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen. *(ELW p. 83)*

Protection through life

O God, full of compassion, we commit and commend ourselves to you, in whom we live and move and have our being. Be the goal of our pilgrimage, and our rest by the way. Give us refuge from the turmoil of worldly distractions beneath the shadow of your wings. Let our hearts, so often a sea of restless waves, find peace in you, O God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *(ELW p. 86)*

Time of Conflict, Crisis, Disaster

God most mighty, God most merciful, our sacred stories tell us that you help and save your people. You are the fortress: may there be no more war. You are the harvest: may there be no more hunger. You are the light: may no one die alone or in despair. God most majestic, God most motherly, grant us your life, the life that flows from your Son and the Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. *(ACS, pg. 49)*

Prejudice, Racism

O God, in your divine mystery you embrace difference in unity, and you call your people to live in peace with all. We pray for an end to racial and ethnic prejudice. Free us from the dread of difference. Free the church from constricting traditions. Free our society from centuries of violence against the other. Break down the walls that separate your people by color, culture, or religion. Call us to repentance for our sins of racism and prejudice, known and unknown. Transform discrimination into a passion for justice. Guide us to nurture a society that embodies reconciliation and cooperation among all, for the sake of the one who embodies your love, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen. *(ACS, pg. 51)*

Good and gracious God, you invite us to recognize and reverence your divine image and likeness in our neighbor. Enable us to see the reality of racism and free us to challenge and uproot it from our society, our world, and ourselves. Amen. *(ACS, pg. 51)*

Those oppressed because of religious identity

God of mercy and new life, you love all people, whom you have made in your image. Empower your faithful people to stand in solidarity with all those oppressed because of religious identity. Deepen respect, community, and love among all those who seek justice and peace. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen. (*ACS, pg. 51*)

Interreligious cooperation and understanding

O God, whose name is above all names, your grace cannot be contained within human limits. We offer our thanks for holy wisdom that comes in other voices, in religions and worldviews different from our own, and in prayers offered in the wideness of your love. Move us more deeply into understanding and partnership, willing to work together in mutual respect, always open to the grace that we have experienced in Christ Jesus, our light and our life. Amen. (*ACS, pg. 51*)

God of creation, we give you thanks for our wonderfully diverse human family. We pray for the well-being of all people, including our neighbors of other religions and worldviews. Grant that, together with them, we will find ways to cooperate for the common good of all, as you desire. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen. (*ACS, pg. 51*)

A prayer attributed to Francis of Assisi

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen. (*ELW, p. 87*)

Suggested Hymns and Songs

ELW 422	For All the Saints
ELW 626	By Gracious Powers
ELW 632	O God, Our Help in Ages Past
ELW 642	Ubi caritas et amor
ELW 711	O Day of Peace
ELW 713	O God of Ev'ry Nation
ELW 716	Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace
ELW 753	Dona nobis pacem
ELW 757	All My Hope on God Is Founded
ACS 925	Beautiful Things
ACS 1023	God Alone Be Praised
ACS 1024	Here on Jesus Christ I Will Stand
ACS 1026	In the Midst of Earthly Life
ACS 1052	When Our World Is Rent by Violence
ACS 1054	God Weeps with Us Who Weep and Mourn
ACS 1085	Hope of the World







In addition to the hymns and songs suggested above, assembly song under the headings of “Hope, Assurance,” “Community in Christ,” “Healing, Wholeness,” and “Lament in ELW and ACS may be especially appropriate.

ELW: *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*

ACS: *All Creation Sings*

Resources

[Resources Available from Augsburg Fortress:](#)

-  *All Creation Sings: Evangelical Lutheran Worship Supplement.* Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2020
-  *All Creation Sings: Evangelical Lutheran Worship Supplement, Leaders Edition.* Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress.
-  *Evangelical Lutheran Worship.* Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2006.
-  *Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Leaders Desk Edition.* Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2006.
-  *Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Pastoral Care.* Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2008.
-  SundaysandSeasons.com. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress.

Additional Resources:

-  [Pastoral Guidelines for Inter-Religious Observances of 9/11 from the ELCA Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Perspectives Blog](#)
-  [Living Lutheran 9/11 articles](#)
-  [Responses to 9/11 from “The Text This Week”](#)
-  [Prayer for the Anniversary of 9/11 from Calvin Institute of Christian Worship](#)

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