

MISSION 4/1 EARTH:

50 Great Days

Litany for All Creation in a Time of Drought and Fire

This litany was written for the land and people of Arizona during a time of devastation.

It may offer a model of prayer for any area which is facing natural disaster.

God of all creation, of rain and fire, of ponderosa and piñon, of desert and forest,
we your people lift our prayers to you.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For rain in this thirsty land and for hope in this hard time,

Lord, hear our prayer.

For firefighters on the front lines, for pilots and support crews
and all who work night and day to contain devastating fires,

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the people of Arizona who have lost their homes, communities and livelihoods,
for the White Mountain Apaches whose homeland for generations is now scorched and burned,
for all persons who have been forced to evacuate or who are still in danger,

Lord, hear our prayer.

And for all the animals and birds who have also lost their homes to fire,
for your plants and trees, rivers and lakes, and all creation that is suffering
because of drought and fire and often because of human greed or human carelessness,

Lord, hear our prayer.

For farmers, ranchers, and the people of rural communities
whose lives and livelihoods are threatened by drought;
for landscapers, business people and day workers who may lose their jobs in this dry time.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the just and wise use of the water you have given us,
to be gracious stewards of your creation and good neighbors with all people,

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the wisdom to conserve and the grace to share the natural resources
you have given all of us.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For city councils and church councils, county commissions and tribal governments,
state authorities and national leaders,
to have your courage and your vision to make hard decisions for the common good.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Gracious God, you who hear every prayer of every heart,
hear now the prayers of this people we lift to you.

(A time of silent prayer)

Hear all of our prayers, spoken and unspoken.

Remind us that you are the One who listens and who hears.

**Help us to be a people who also listen and hear—
to one another, to our brothers and sisters, to all creation.**

Give us the courage;

grant us the wisdom to love one another and this earth as you do.

We pray in your name and offer the prayer Jesus taught:

*(please use a version of the Lord's Prayer familiar to you: "Our Creator/Father;
debts/trespases, etc.).*

Litany for All Creation in A Time of Drought and Fire was written by the Rev. Talitha Arnold, Senior Minister of The United Church of Santa Fe. . Other Mission 4/1 Earth materials may be found at <http://www.ucc.org/news/mission-for-one-earth-website.html>



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God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

