

CHRISTIAN PRAYERS ON CLIMATE CHANGE

*The following is a collection of prayers on climate change written for use in churches.
Please attribute the sources listed below.*

A Prayer on Climate Change

Creator God, this earth is miraculous and beautiful. Forgive our confusion and inaction as we confront the challenges of climate change. In the light of your truth, seen so clearly in the life and teaching of Jesus, help us to re-examine ourselves and our lifestyle choices and see clearly the implications of how we live on all that sustains life on this earth. May we follow your lead in caring for every aspect of this precious world, which you made, and love.

We pray for world leaders to find new, just and radical agreements that will protect our fragile world for future generations.

Throughout history you have moved people to do amazing things for the sake of their neighbours. Inspire us now to work together, as your people, to change priorities in the way we live, so that we build a fair and safe world for all your creation; a world where your will is done as it is in heaven.

Amen.

Adapted from Churches Together in Britain and Ireland - <http://www.ctbi.org.uk/409/>

A Prayer of Intercession on Climate Change

Leader: We pray for people living with the effects of climate change. For the sake of those facing rising temperatures, drought and water shortages,

All: Creator God, in your mercy, renew this damaged world.

Leader: For the sake of those facing unpredictable weather, disrupted seasons and failed crops,

All: Creator God, in your mercy, renew this damaged world.

Leader: For the sake of those facing flooding, land loss and salination of vital water supplies,

All: Creator God, in your mercy, renew this damaged world.

Leader: For the sake of all those who fear the changing climate,

All: Creator God, in your mercy, renew this damaged world.

Leader: For the sake of the poor, the vulnerable, and the refugee

All: Creator God, in your mercy, renew this damaged world.

Leader: For the sake of us all,

All: Creator God, in your mercy, recreate our hearts that we might partner with you to renew this damaged world.

A Prayer for Leaders and Politicians

Leader: Father, we pray for you to raise up a generation of leaders with the courage to take responsibility for our changing climate, and the part we have played in it. We intercede for our politicians and leaders. Move them to act in the best interests of all nations today, and all peoples in the future, in order to avoid catastrophic changes. God, we ask for a generation of leaders who will be willing to act justly so that those who have contributed so little to the problems we are facing, and have fewer resources with which to face it, are not left to shoulder our burden. We ask You to fill the hearts of all who lead rich nations. Give them your mercy and compassion on poor countries already suffering the effects of a changing climate. Just as they have been moved to cancel debt in the past, encourage them also to release funds so that poor communities can adapt to the effects of climate change, and develop cleanly. And inspire us, Mighty God, to amend our lives for the sake of your Earth, your climate, your people.

All: Lord, in your mercy, lead our leaders and us to truth and transformation.

Adapted from The Sanctuary Centre - <http://tinyurl.com/climate-change-prayer>

The Operation Noah Prayer

Creator God, how deep are your designs!
You made a living earth, cloud, rain and wind,
And charged us with their care.
We confess that the way we live today
Is changing the climate, the seas and the balance of life,
Dispossessing the poor and future generations.
Build our lives into an Ark for all creation,
And, as you promised Noah never to repeat the flood,
So make us heralds of a new rainbow covenant:
Choosing life for all that is at risk –
For creation, neighbours near and far,
Our children and ourselves.
Amen.

From Churches Together in Britain and Ireland - <http://www.ctbi.org.uk/409/>

A Prayer for Scientists and Engineers

Leader: Creator God – creator of our world, of science, and of creativity itself, You hold all knowledge. We praise you and thank you for the insights you have given people into engineering, science and systems in the past. In your mercy, grant revelation to scientists and engineers that they might discover solutions and systems to aid adaptation. Not that we might continue to take the earth and its resources for granted, or grow arrogant, but that your precious children and your Earth might be healed and protected.

All: Lord, in your mercy, lead our scientists and engineers to new discovery for a healthy human presence on the Earth.

Adapted from The Sanctuary Centre - <http://tinyurl.com/climate-change-prayer>

A Prayer for Energy for Continued Advocacy on Climate Change

Christ our Lord,

Many of us have taken action, campaigned, and called on our leaders to protect your Creation from climate change.

We have petitioned and prayed that you would grant wisdom and courage to the world's leaders.

But our collective lack of progress continues to miss the mark – by a lot. It is hard not to feel that we, and all leaders, have failed to show love for future generations and for the world's poor.

Be with us in our disappointment. Help us not to become despondent or to give up fighting for what is right.

Instead help us to focus on what lies ahead, and to seek your wisdom and energy. Remind us that our calling to care for the Earth and its people reflects your own heart for Creation and for the poor, and that you are with us as we seek to serve them in your name.

Motivate us afresh to take action. Remind us of the hope that is to be found in you.

Inspire us to follow your example of commitment and unstoppable love shown in You.

Empower us to work with you to restore a broken world.

Amen.

Adapted from Christian Aid - <http://www.christianaid.org.uk/resources/churches/prayer/climate-change.aspx>

The Be-Attitudes

Blessed are those who use low energy light bulbs
for theirs is the light of God's wisdom.

Blessed are those who travel by train (and other public transport)
for their lives are on God's track.

Blessed are those who chose a car with low fuel consumption
for they are in God's fast lane.

Blessed are those who insulate their homes
for theirs is the warmth of God's love.

Blessed are those who put themselves out
to use energy from renewable sources,
for they have kindled the flame of the future.

Adapted from John Polhill, © Eggs and Ashes,
WGRG, Iona Community, Glasgo.

From <http://www.arrcc.org.au/climate-change-prayers>

A Prayer by Eleanor Todd for Operation Noah

Jesus Christ, tempted to turn stones to bread in the wilderness;

Teach us that when we change time for our convenience;
night to day in our living,
patience to speed in our journeying,
winter to summer in our eating,

we change God's calendar which brings
the hatchling to the caterpillar,
the bee to the nectar,
the rains to the farmer;

Into the one which nails you to the cross.

Give us grace in our simplest actions to choose the life
which breathes in the beautiful complexity of creation, to conquer death,
and to fit us to be Easter people.

Amen.

Adapted from Churches Together in Britain and Ireland - <http://www.ctbi.org.uk/409/>

For additional Christians worship resources on the environment, see GreenFaith's GreenWorship resource:
<http://tinyurl.com/GreenWorship-resource>