

## WORSHIP IN TIMES OF NEED



### OPENING LITANY

O Lord, when the waters rage and foam,

**Still the storms and grant us your peace.**

When the gift of creation becomes burden,

**Still the storms and grant us your peace.**

When our fears threaten to overtake us,

**Still the storms and grant us your peace.**

Speak your word to the wind and to the sea,

**Fill us with faith.**

Show us your care in the service of others,

**Fill us with compassion.**

Make the joy of your peace overflow in our lives,

**Fill us with hope.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Merciful God, when the storms rage and threaten to overtake us, awaken our faith to know the power of your peace. Deliver us from our fear and ease our anxiety. Help us to endure the time of uncertainty and give us strength to face the challenges ahead. Give us the assurance of your presence even in this time so that we can cling to your promise of hope and life shown to us through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 41:9b-10

[The Lord said:] "You are my servant, I have chosen you and not cast you off"; do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.

### PSALMODY: Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,

though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

though its waters roar and foam,

though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;

God will help it when the morning dawns.

The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Come, behold the works of the LORD; see what desolations he has brought on the earth.  
He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;  
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.  
"Be still, and know that I am God!  
I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth."  
The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

**SECOND READING:** 2 Thessalonians 3:3

The Lord is faithful; he will strengthen you and guard you from the evil one.

**GOSPEL:** Mark 4:35-41

On that day, when evening had come, [Jesus] said to [the disciples], "Let us go across to the other side." And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
No merit of my own I claim, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.  
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;  
in ev'ry high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil.  
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, his covenant, his blood sustain me in the 'whelming flood;  
when all supports are washed away, he then is all my hope and stay.  
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

When he shall come with trumpet sound, oh may I then in him be found,  
clothed in his righteousness alone, redeemed to stand before the throne!  
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

Text: Edward Mote Public Domain  
Tunes: William B. Bradbury THE SOLID ROCK  
John B. Dykes MELITA

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Gracious God, you are our refuge and strength, a very present help in time of trouble. In the wake of Hurricane Florence, reveal your presence so that all may know your healing, hope, and love. As one community on earth bound together by your grace, inspire us to pray, serve, and help all those who suffer. Bring comfort to the afflicted and strength to those who come to their aid. Lord in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

Merciful God, 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.  
Lord in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

Finally, we pray for all that you would have us pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

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