



Prayer station

Praying about the climate crisis

Throughout scripture, we see God’s love for this world. ‘The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it...’ declares Psalm 24:1.

But with record-breaking storms, severe droughts and rising temperatures, we’re seeing creation being knocked off balance – and people being pushed back into poverty as a result. If we are to truly love our global neighbours, we have to tackle the climate crisis.

Let’s pray together in thankfulness, lament and hope for all of creation, our global neighbours and our world leaders in the midst of this climate emergency.

Use this prayer guide to draw near to God and cry out for those worst affected by the climate crisis.

First, let’s prepare our hearts:

‘Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.’

1 John 3:18

Orbisa

Our world and our neighbours are affected unequally by climate change. Those who are least responsible are impacted first and worst. For families like Orbisa's, everyday life is a real struggle. Orbisa lives with her husband and nine children in Afar, north-east Ethiopia – one of the hottest inhabited places on the planet.

Over the last few years, rainfall in her region has reduced dramatically because of climate change. Orbisa says, 'In the past we had rainfall every six months, but now we don't know when the rainfall will come. The length of the dry season is increasing.' Without rain, her animals are dying, which means less income, less food and poor health for the family. Orbisa now has to travel many hours every day to fetch water, but still her children go thirsty.

This is what the climate emergency looks like. If we don't take urgent action now, climate change will continue to push millions more people like Orbisa deeper into poverty.



Scan the QR code
to hear Orbisa tell
her story.



Prayer of lament

Lord God, you made the world and declared it was ‘very good’. And yet, we have not treated the earth and our fellow humans with the care and respect they deserve. We are sorry and ask for your forgiveness.

Give us the courage to keep raising our voices about the climate emergency, which affects people living in poverty the worst. Help us to live in harmony with creation and heal our relationship with nature. Amen.

Prayer points

As we pray to the God of abundance, let’s remind ourselves that right in the beginning, God delighted in his creation. ‘God saw all that he had made, and it was very good’ (Genesis 1:31). In our day-to-day lives we have the opportunity to thank God for his daily provision, and worship him through our actions and the way we look after his creation locally.

Spend some time giving thanks to God, appreciating the beauty of his creation. ‘Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let the sea resound, and all that is in it’ (Psalm 96:11).

- Pray that the church globally continues to support communities experiencing the worst effects of the climate crisis – transforming communities and tackling inequities
- Pray for world leaders as they act on climate change together – that they work hard to find solutions and take urgent action. Ask for wisdom for countries most impacted by climate change to know how to adapt to a changing world, and pray that their leaders would hear the cries of the people made most vulnerable by climate change. Pray for countries with the highest emissions to be ambitious in their commitments and actions, and to prioritise justice and fairness.
- Give thanks for Tearfund’s staff and partners, and the communities we work with who are finding sustainable, innovative ways to work in harmony with the changing climate to sustain their families and create more reliable livelihoods.