



Comfort My people

Prayer for Bushfires

A photograph showing the aftermath of a fire. In the foreground, a white bicycle lies on its side on a ground covered in ash and charred debris. Behind it, a brick wall remains standing, though the structure above is completely destroyed, with twisted metal and charred wood visible. In the background, a red fire truck is parked, and thick white smoke rises from the ruins. The scene is set against a backdrop of bare trees under a grey, overcast sky.

Opening Prayer

Let us pray.

God of Comfort, God of love.

Be with us now as we gather in faith and trust
To offer our prayers for all who have died in the fire storm,
And for their families and loved ones who grieve for them.

We pray your blessing of comfort and healing
Upon all who have been harmed in anyway through
this tragedy.

May our prayers unite us with them in their suffering,
Through the Spirit of Jesus your son, the one who
shares our sufferings with us.

All: Amen



A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings, lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God'. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will carry the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep. And he will destroy on his mountain the shroud which is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord will wipe away tears from all faces.

Leader: We come now, as Jesus has invited us,
to surrender our burdens and prayers in faith and trust to our loving God.

We pray for all who have died in the firestorm... Lord hear us

All: God of comfort, hear our prayer

For the grieving families and friends of all those who have died ... Lord hear us

All: God of comfort, hear our prayer

For all those who have lost their homes, livelihood and possessions... Lord hear us.

All: God of comfort, hear our prayer

For the fire-fighters and volunteers who have risked their lives in the face of the fire
storm...Lord hear us

All: God of comfort, hear our prayer

For all those offering comfort, support and outreach to the fire victims, their families and
communities...Lord hear us

All: God of comfort, hear our prayer

For the devastation of our land, its vegetation and wildlife...Lord hear us

All: God of comfort, hear our prayer

For ourselves and the whole of our nation, as we struggle to understand this tragedy
and destruction of life...Lord hear us

All: God of comfort, hear our prayer

Let us stand...bow our heads and
place our hands over our hearts as we pray.





Reader 1

God of the devastated...
God of the injured...
God of the dead...
God of the bereaved...
God of the vulnerable...
God of the exhausted...

Reader 2

God of grief...
God of tears...
God of numbness...
God of loss...
God who brings healing...
God who brings hope...
God who brings new life...
God of chaos...
God of suffering...
God of fear...
God of panic...

A photograph of a kangaroo standing in a charred forest. The ground is covered in ash and charred wood. Two large circular overlays, one light brown and one dark brown, contain text. The kangaroo is in the center background, looking towards the camera.

Reader 3

God in the fire fighters...
God in the medical staff...
God in the Good Samaritans...
God in the caring neighbour...
God in the Counsellor...
God of those who flee for their lives...
God of those in pain...
God of those in anguish...
God of those who search...
God of those who are separated...

Reader 4

God of unanswerable questions...
God of hope...
God of calm...
God of Australia...
God of today, tomorrow and always...
Be with the people of Australia...

All: Amen