

*A prayer for Australia in drought and fire*

*Our heavenly Father, creator of all things and especially the creator of this land and its original peoples, we call out to you in these desperate times as fires have swept across several parts of our country.*

*Our hearts cry out to you for those who have lost loved ones, and those who have lost properties in the wake of these ravaging fires*

*Father we pray, in your mercy, restrain the forces of nature from creating catastrophic damage; in your mercy protect human life.*

*Guard those volunteers, rural fire service personnel and emergency services who selflessly step into the breach to fight these fires. Guide police and authorities who help evacuate and shelter those who are displaced. Bring comfort and healing to all who suffer loss.*

*Remembering your promises of old that seedtime and harvest will never cease, we pray that you would open the heavens to send refreshing rain upon our parched land.*

*In your mercy, we pray for drenching rain.*

*We pray that despite the forecasts, in your miraculous power you would bring forth rain to quench these fires and to bring life back into the earth, so that crops may grow and farmers may bring forth the harvest of the land again.*

*We bring these requests before your throne, in the name of your Son, who died and rose again for our deliverance,*

*Amen.*