

Water Vigil Prayer

Almighty and gracious God, as the sun sets and the air grows cold, let there be a fire in our hearts; let there be light in our eyes; and let there be hope in our being. As this crisis fades from the airwaves and becomes a distant memory to some, let us remember and remind those tempted to forget that there were those whose waters have been made bitter and undrinkable by this spill. Let us remember the poor, the disabled, the elderly, the young, the pregnant, and the nursing. Let us also remember the people of Prenter and the people of Parkersburg, those who have lost their wells from mountaintop removal and fracking, and those for whom water is not a guarantee in our state and beyond.

Oh God, we pray for the water, that it might be restored. We pray for the people that they might be healed. We pray for the land, that it might receive rest. Oh Lord, give strength of heart this night and for the days to come, until this great gift of water may be treasured and protected by all. In Jesus' Name. Amen.



Photo: West Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church

This prayer was written and delivered by Rev. Jeff Allen following the West Virginia water crisis in January, 2014. Jeff is a pastor in the United Methodist Church and is currently the Executive Director of the West Virginia Council of Churches.