



Prayer: Psalm 107:1-9

Year C, Pentecost 8

By Beck Finger

Corporate prayer that uses Psalm 107:1-9 as a beginning point to offer prayers for the world.	
You will need:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A collection of printed copies of news stories, images of refugees, asylum seekers, people in worn-torn countries etc• Portable clothes line, or rope strung between chairs etc• pegs
Time required:	15 minutes during worship

Connect

Psalm 107:1-9 is a prayer, a song that glorifies God for the things he has done – and a hopeful prayer for the things he will do – in the midst of struggle and suffering.

Context

Here is a collection of current news items and images about displaced people, heart-broken people, wandering people. I want to invite everyone to look them over and to choose one. There are markers and pencils in the basket – write a prayer, or a word, or draw a little picture on your piece of paper.

We are going to read this small section from Psalm 107 out together from the screen, and then, I would like to encourage each of us to offer a brief prayer in response to the image you are holding. If you don't feel confident doing this, pair up with someone who might, and discuss a way to offer a prayer together. You can

pray out loud, read out what you have written, share what you've drawn, or just peg your image up on the line.

At the end of each person's prayer, let's join together saying "May God deliver them from their distress."

Content

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
His love endures forever.
Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story –
Those he redeemed from the hand of the foe,
Those he gathered from the lands,
From the east and west, from north and south.

<encourage the offering of some prayers here. Invite people forward to peg their pages to the clothes line or rope>

May God deliver them from their distress.

Some wandered in desert wastelands,
Finding no way to a city they could settle.
They were hungry and thirsty,
And their lives ebbed away.
Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble,
And he delivered them from their distress.

<encourage the offering of some more prayers here. Invite people forward to peg their pages to the clothes line or rope>

May God deliver them from their distress.

He led them by a straight way
To a city where they could settle.
Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love
And his wonderful deeds for mankind,
For he satisfies the thirsty
And fills the hungry with good things.

Let the one who is wise heed these things
And ponder the loving deeds of the Lord.



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Consequence

Lord we pray for those who are wandering, or fleeing, or running, and travelling far from their homes, hungry and thirsty, stripped of everything, with nowhere to go. You see them. You know their stories.
May you deliver them from their distress.

