

## **Litany for Katrina/Rita Service of Remembrance**

Leader: Has it really been a decade since Katrina and Rita stormed through our lives?

People: In many ways the time has passed quickly, even though it has been a slow, difficult journey.

Leader: It has not faded from our memory how the giant whirlwinds of watery gusts were followed by equally powerful swirls of shock, grief, and distress.

People: Our thankful hearts have not forgotten how the fierce waves of wind and water were surpassed by fervent waves of prayers, gifts, and time, and the sheer dogged work of thousands at our sides from across the globe.

Leader: The storms plowed across our homes, churches and communities, uprooting much of what we have known and taken for granted.

People: Your Spirit of compassion and hope has plowed new furrows where seeds of rebuilding have taken root and born fruit.

Leader: We have discovered much about ourselves.

People: We have come to know and be new neighbors.

Leader: We have learned how far we have fallen short of the ways you have called us to live.

People: We have been reminded of the deep need for justice, forgiveness and intentional formation of community that reflects your reign on earth.

Leader: We have experienced again, and in many ways for the first time, the power of your transformational presence and the reality of resurrection.

People: We affirm that nothing will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Leader: Mighty God, this was not the first time your wisdom, your love, and your resilience have spoken out of the whirlwind, and it likely will not be the last.

People: May we continue to fasten our lives, our trust and our hope in you.

All: AMEN.