A Litany for the Anniversary of Hurricane Harvey

V. We gasp, gracious God, as we see the hurricane preparedness alerts, and we wonder what made our hearts skip a beat.  
R. 

   Remember us, O God.  

V. It happened—the much-needed rain became too much. It wouldn’t leave—and it wouldn’t stop. It hung around, this unwelcome visitor, Harvey.  
R. 

   Remember us, O God.  

V. It wreaked havoc on people’s lives, homes, businesses, property, possessions, and on our sense of safety, routine, and security.  
R. 

   Remember us, O God.  

V. Harvey sent out waves of destruction, waves which kept coming for days, weeks, and months—so much was lost.  
R. 

   Remember us, O God.  

V. And so much was found!  
R. 

   May your light shine in our darkness, O Loving God.  

V. Neighbor helped neighbor. Strangers from near and far appeared and brought rescue, food, water, and hope.  
R. 

   May your light shine in our darkness, O Loving God.  

V. Many experienced community in a new and empowering way.  
R. 

   May your light shine in our darkness, O Loving God.  

V. Our sense of isolation was absorbed in receiving the gifts of others as well as in the giving of gifts ourselves. We helped one another cry.  
R. 

   May your light shine in our darkness, O Loving God.  

V. As our recovery from Harvey is still ongoing, bless us with patient endurance in body, mind, and heart.  
R. 

   May we find peace in Your Presence, Lord.  

V. As we approach the anniversary of the beginning of Harvey’s destruction,  
R. 

   May we find peace in Your Presence, Lord.  

V. We rejoice in hopeful gratitude of the volunteers, youth groups, churches, and so many others that are organizing rebuilding projects throughout this season of recovery.  
R. 

   May we find peace in Your Presence, Lord.  

V. We ask your continued healing from the wounds and losses of Harvey’s impact. May we be grounded in your love and strengthened by your power.  
R. 

   May we find peace in Your Presence, Lord.  

The celebrant adds a concluding collect.