

PRAYERS OVER TROUBLED WATERS

CONTENTS

Reverend Dr. Emmitt Theophilus Caviness	vii
A Prayer from the African American Oral Tradition	xi
1 Our Lives Are Inter-connected.....	1
2 The Invitation That Matters.....	4
3 We Pray for Our Children.....	7
4 The Struggles of Life.....	10
5 The Gift of This Day.....	13
6 Preludes to Prayer.....	16
7 Jesus' Three Affirmations	19
8 The Real Celebration	22
9 The Promise of a New Year.....	24
10 The Posture of the Sankofa Bird.....	26
11 Self-Evaluation.....	29
12 In God's Presence.....	31
13 The Fruit of the Spirit	34
14 Your Word in Our Weariness	36
15 Keys of Your Kingdom	38
16 Truth Marches On.....	40
17 Praying in Broken Places.....	43
18 A Strong Faith in Sad Times.....	46
19 I Believe	49
20 Dressed to Take a Stand.....	52
21 Have Your Way.....	54
22 Our Acknowledgments	56
23 The Grace of Remembering.....	58

24	A Litany: Lead Us Not into Temptation	60
25	God's Ways Are Not Our Ways	64
26	Our Imperfect Speech.....	67
27	The Gift of Psalm 139.....	69
28	Communion of Ancestors and Saints	71
29	Strength for the Journey.....	74
30	We Need Each Other	77
31	Receiving Your Word	80
32	Trouble All Over This World.....	82
33	Moving Away from Generalities.....	86
34	Casting Our Crowns at Your Altar	89
35	In Your Light.....	91
36	Cleanse Our Hearts	94
37	God's Warning Signs	97
38	God Has Taught Us.....	100
39	The Right to Dissent	103
40	Other Kingdoms	106
41	We Are Mortals	109
42	The Light Within.....	112
43	By the Measurements of Our Ancestors.....	114
44	Praise Determinants	117
45	Each Day is Election Day.....	120
46	Beyond Slogans	122
47	Hope in God.....	125
48	Lord, I Love You.....	127
49	A Psalm in Praise of the Creator	129
50	Pray and Pray Right.....	132
51	An Intercessory Prayer	135
52	A Prayer About Praying	138
53	Surely the Days Are Coming	141
54	A Prayer for Les (A Vignette)	144
55	A Prayer for Cassie (A Vignette)	147

56	Lessons from Tim (A Vignette).....	150
57	A Prayer for Maria and Josiah (A Vignette).....	153
58	The Situation of Chisolm and Anna (A Vignette).....	156
59	Domestic Disgrace (A Vignette)	158
60	Loveless Marriage (A Vignette)	160
61	Church Lawsuit (A Vignette)	164
62	My Mother Prayed for Me (A Vignette).....	168
	Appendix.....	171
	Striving for Excellence.....	173
	The Apostles' Creed (Dr. Spann's Revision).....	179
	A Benediction	181
	About Dr. Thomas W. Spann.....	183