1. **Recited as a part of the Amidah during the season in which rain is needed**

God who causes the wind to blow and the rain to fall

2. **Talmud Bavli Ta’anit 23b**

Hanan ha-Nehba was the son of the daughter of Honi the Circle-Drawer. When the world was in need of rain the Rabbis would send to him school children and they would take hold of the hem of his garment and say to him, **Father, Father, give us rain.** Thereupon he would plead with the Holy One, Blessed be He, [thus], Master of the Universe, do it for the sake of these who are unable to distinguish between the Father who gives rain and the father who does not.

3. **Mishna Ta’anit 3:8**

It once happened that Honi the circle drawer was asked to pray for rain. He said “go bring in the Passover ovens so they will not be drenched. He prayed, and the rain did not fall.

He drew a circle and stood in it and said, “Master of the world, your children put their faith in me that I am like a member of your household. I swear in your great name that I will not move from this spot until you have mercy on your children.

The rain began to drip.

He said: This is not what I asked for, I asked for rain to fill the cisterns, wells, and caves.

It came down torrentially.

He said: This is not what I have asked for rather **rains of good will, blessing and generosity.**

It rained as requested, until the people went up from Israel to Jerusalem to the temple mount from too much rain.

They said: Just as you repayed for the rain to fall, so too, pray for them to go.

He said: Go out and see if it touches the stone of claims.

Shimon ben Shetah sent to him and said, you should be punished, but what can I do to you, as
you sin before God as a son who sins before his father and gets your way. About you the verse is written: Let your father and mother be happy and be glad that you were born. (Proverbs 23:25)

4. Geshem—the prayer for rain
Remember Abraham, his heart poured out to You like water. You blessed him, as a tree planted near water; You saved him when he went through fire and water. For his sake, do not withhold water. This prayer for rain is inserted into the Amidah for Shmini Atzeret

5. Psalms 145:16
The eyes of all look hopefully to You, and You provide their food in due time.
You open Your hand; Your favor sustains all the living.
Adonai is just in all His ways, loving in all His deeds.
Adonai is near to all who call, to all who call to God with integrity.
God fulfills the desire of those who are faithful; God hears their cry and delivers them.

6. Proverbs 10:3
Do not allow the righteous to go hungry

7. remember the cries of those who descended into Egypt to escape famine
And there was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to live there, for the famine in the land was very heavy.
And there was a famine in the land, aside from the first famine that was in the days of Abraham, and Isaac went to Avimelech the king of the Philistines, toward Gerar.
And the famine was over the whole land. And Joseph opened all that he had (stored) and supplied Egypt. And the famine strengthened in all the land throughout Egypt; and the famine became very great in Egypt, so that the land of Egypt failed for bread.

This prayer for rain is inserted into the Amidah for Shmini Atzeret
the land of Egypt. And all the land came to Egypt for supplies to Joseph, for the famine was very strong in all the Land. And Jacob saw that there were supplies in Egypt and said to his sons, why are you afraid? He said: I have heard that there are supplies in Egypt, go down there and supply us from there and we will live and not die.

8. From the daily Maariv service
Help us, Adonai, to lie down in peace, and awaken us again, our Sovereign, to life. Spread over us Your shelter of peace; guide us with Your good counsel. Save us because of Your mercy.

Shield us from enemies and pestilence, from starvation, sword, and sorrow.

Remove the evil forces that surround us.

Shelter us in the shadow of Your wings, O God, who watches over us and delivers us, our gracious and merciful Ruler.

Guard our coming and our going; grant us life and peace, now and always.

Spread over us the shelter of Your peace.

Praised are You Adonai, who spreads the shelter of peace over us, over all His people Israel, and over Jerusalem.

9. From the insertion to the Amidah on fast days
Answer us, Adonai; answer us on our fast day, for we are in great distress. Overlook our faults; turn not away from us. Be mindful of our plea and be receptive to our supplication. Your love is our comfort; answer us before we call. This is the promise uttered by Your prophet: “I shall answer before they call, I shall respond while they yet deliberate” (Isaiah 65:24).

God who hears prayers, answer this plea, for your children are in great distress. (Repetition: Praised are You, Lord who answers the afflicted.)

Translations in bold are from “A Prayer in a Time of Famine,” AJWS.
All other translations are from Siddur Sim Shalom and RA staff.