

Prayer Resources at a time of Unrest

A Prayer in Troubled Times

God of love,
turn our hearts to your ways;
and give us peace.
Amen.

A Prayer for Refugees

Almighty and merciful God,
whose Son became a refugee and had no place to call his own;
look with mercy on those who today are fleeing from danger,
homeless and hungry.
Bless those who work to bring them relief;
inspire generosity and compassion in all our hearts;
and guide the nations of the world towards that day
when all will rejoice in your Kingdom of justice and of peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Two Prayers for Justice

Almighty God our heavenly Father,
guide the nations of the world into the way of justice and truth,
and establish among them that peace which is the fruit of righteousness,
that they may become the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Grant us, Lord God, a vision of our land as your love would make it:
a land where the weak are protected, and none go hungry or poor;
- a land where the benefits of civilised life are shared, and everyone can enjoy them;
- a land where different races and cultures live in tolerance and mutual respect;
- a land where peace is built with justice, and justice is guided by love.
And give us the inspiration and courage to build it, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

A Prayer for Mercy

Lord, your Son Jesus Christ is peace itself
and has washed away our hatred with his blood.
Because you love all people,
look with mercy on us.
Banish all violence and evil within us,
and in answer to our prayers restore tranquility and peace.
Amen.

A Prayer for the Leaders of the Nations

O God our heavenly Father,
whose love sets no boundaries and whose strength is in service;
grant to the leaders of the nations
wisdom, courage and insight at this time of darkness and fear.
Give to all who exercise authority
determination to defend the principles of freedom, love and tolerance,
strength to protect and safeguard the innocent
and clarity of vision to guide the world into the paths of justice and peace.
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

A Prayer for Reconciliation

Gracious God, ruling the earth and its people
not by terror but in love;
we worship you.
We confess that too often our words hurt others
and our deeds are selfish;
forgive us.
In this time of uncertainty and fear, help us to love our enemies
and do good to those who hate us,
in the name of Jesus our Lord.
Amen.

Two Prayers for Peace

Almighty Father,
whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the king of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,

and bring the families of the nations divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle rule;
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

O God, who would fold both heaven and earth in a single peace:
Let the design of thy great love lighten upon the waste of our wraths and sorrows:
and give peace to thy Church,
peace among nations,
peace in our dwellings,
and peace in our hearts:
through thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

A Litany of Intercession

For the victims of violence and oppression,
for those whose lives are shattered
for those who have lost one they loved:

All sing **O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer:
when I call, answer me:
O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer:
come and listen to me.**

For those who see violence as their only means
of being heard,
for those who live in fear or want,
for those whose hearts are scarred by hatred and bitterness:

All sing **O Lord, hear my prayer ...**

For those who must take decisions that affect the lives
of nations,
for members of the armed forces serving abroad,
for those who work in relief and rescue organisations:

All sing **O Lord, hear my prayer ...**

For all those who believe themselves threatened,
for those who seek to build bridges and make peace,
for all men and women of goodwill:

All sing **O Lord, hear my prayer ...**

For a willingness to forgive and be forgiven,
for the determination to make peace a priority
for the courage to trust even in the darkest hours:

All sing **O Lord, hear my prayer ...**

For those who have died, and those who are left behind,
for the injured and shocked,
for those who will die through violence tonight:

All sing

○ Lord, hear my prayer ...

God our Father,
your Son Jesus Christ was the victim of hatred and violence
look with mercy on your broken world
bring healing and hope to those whose lives are shattered
by violence or terrorist activity
guide those who must take decisions at local, national and international level,
turn the hearts of those who resort to violence
and guide all people of goodwill
to seek that peace which is founded upon justice for all;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.