THE RIGHT TO PEACE

70 YEARS
UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

#StandUp4HumanRights | ohchr.org
The International Day of Prayer for Peace was first adopted by resolution in 1981 by the United Nations General Assembly. In 2001, adopted a new resolution, 55/282, declaring 21 September of each year as the International Day of Peace. The intention of the resolution is to have the entire world observe a day of peace and nonviolence.

www.internationaldayofpeace.org

MAY PEACE PREVAIL ON EARTH
The Peace Pole Project – Peace poles are four or six-sided obelisk shaped poles decorated with the message and prayer for peace. “May Peace Prevail On Earth” transcends all differences in race, religion and creed. It radiates to heal, purify and unify the hearts of all people.

The planting of peace poles is an expression of our love for all God’s children and wish for global peace and harmony. Through the active support of individuals and organizations the world over, peace poles are continuously being planted as an international symbol of peace. There are more than 250,000 Peace Poles in 180 countries all over the world dedicated as monuments to peace. They serve as constant reminders for us to visualize and pray for world peace.


Welcome Debbie Hunter, Episcopal Peace Fellowship

Opening Hymn: Let There Be Peace On Earth

Jill Jackson and Sy Miller

And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

James 3:18
Prayer for Peace - From the National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund

Oh Lord, you love justice and you establish peace on earth.  
We bring before you the disunity of today’s world: 
The absurd violence, and the many wars, 
Which are breaking the courage of the peoples around the world; 
Human greed and injustice, 
Which breed hatred and strife. 
Send your spirit and renew the face of the earth; 
Teach us to be compassionate towards all people, made in your image; 
Strengthen the will of all those 
Who fight for justice and peace, 
And give us that peace which the world cannot give.  

Litany for Peace (from International Prayers for Peace)

We pray to God to eradicate all the violence in the world: 
that understanding triumph over ignorance, 
that generosity triumph over indifference, 
that trust triumph over contempt, and 
that truth triumph over falsehood. (from Zoroastrian Prayer for Peace)

Lord, you are the one who does not hesitate to respond to our call.  
Lord, you are the cornerstone of peace.  
Lord, strengthen us to create peace.

Although the people living across the ocean surrounding us are all our brothers and sisters, 
why are there constant troubles in this world? 
Why do winds and waves rise in the ocean surrounding us? (from Shinto Prayer for Peace)

Lord, you are the one who does not hesitate to respond to our call.  
Lord, you are the cornerstone of peace.  
Lord, strengthen us to create peace.
Come let us go up the mountain of the Lord, that we may walk the paths of the Most High. And we shall beat our swords into ploughshares, and our spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift up sword against nation-- neither shall they learn war any more. And none shall be afraid, for the mouth of the Lord of Hosts has spoken. *(from Jewish Prayer for Peace)*

**Lord, you are the one who does not hesitate to respond to our call.**

**Lord, you are the cornerstone of peace.**

**Lord, strengthen us to create peace.**

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**Hymn: We Are Called**

David Haas

1. Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy of the Lord! We are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God!

2. Come! Open your heart! Show your mercy to all those in fear! We are called to hope for the hopeless so all sisters and brothers united in love!

3. Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one! God will reign, and we’ll walk with each other; to walk humbly with God!
In the name of God, the beneficent, the merciful,
Praise be to the Lord of the Universe who has created us
And made us into tribes and nations,
that we may know each other, not that we may despise each other.
Whether your enemy inclines towards peace, you incline towards peace,
and trust God, for the Lord is the one that hears and knows all things. (from Muslim Prayer for Peace)

Lord, you are the one who does not hesitate to respond to our call.
Lord, you are the cornerstone of peace.
Lord, strengthen us to create peace.

Blessed are the PEACEMAKERS,
for they shall be known as the Children of God.
Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,
bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.
To those who strike you on the cheek, offer the other also,
and from those who take away your cloak, do not withhold your coat as well.
And as you wish that others would do to you, so do to them. (from Christian Prayer for Peace)

Lord, you are the one who does not hesitate to respond to our call.
Lord, you are the cornerstone of peace.
Lord, strengthen us to create peace.

God judges us according to our deeds, not the coat that we wear:
that truth is above everything, but higher still is truthful living.
Know that we attain God when we love one another,
and only that victory endures in which no one is defeated. (from Sikh Prayer for Peace)

Lord, you are the one who does not hesitate to respond to our call.
Lord, you are the cornerstone of peace.
Lord, strengthen us to create peace.

Peace and Universal Love is the essence of the Gospel
To all have amity, and to none enmity.
Know that violence is the root cause of all miseries in the world.
Violence, in fact, is the knot of bondage.
“Do not injure any living being.”
This is the eternal, perennial, and unalterable way of spiritual life.
A weapon howsoever powerful it may be, can always be superseded by a superior one;
but no weapon can be superior to non-violence and love. (from Jainist Prayer for Peace)

Lord, you are the one who does not hesitate to respond to our call.
Lord, you are the cornerstone of peace.
Lord, strengthen us to create peace.
Hymn: Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

1. Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me bring your love. Where there’s despair in life, let me bring hope. Where is in forgiving that we are pardoned, in there is injury, your pardon, Lord, And there is darkness, only light, And giving of ourselves that we receive, and in where there’s doubt, true faith in you. where there’s sadness, ever joy. dying that we’re born to eternal life.

3. Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be soled as to console. To be understood as to understand. To be loved as to love with all my soul.
Be generous in prosperity, and thankful in adversity.  
Be fair in judgement, and guarded in speech.  
Be a lamp to those who walk in darkness, and a home to the stranger.  
Be eyes to the blind, and a guiding light for the feet of the erring.  
Be a breath of life to the body of humankind, a dew to the soil of the human heart, and a fruit upon the tree of humility. (from Bahá’í Prayer for Peace)

Lord, you are the one who does not hesitate to respond to our call.  
Lord, you are the cornerstone of peace.  
Lord, strengthen us to create peace.

Give us the wisdom to teach our children to love, to respect, and to be kind to each other so that they may grow with peace in mind.  
Let us learn to share all good things that you provide for us on this Earth. (from Native American Prayer for Peace)

Lord, you are the one who does not hesitate to respond to our call.  
Lord, you are the cornerstone of peace.  
Lord, strengthen us to create peace.

May all human beings everywhere suffering in body, mind or spirit quickly be freed from their illnesses.  
May those frightened cease to be afraid, and may those bound be free.  
May the powerless find power, and may people befriend one another. (from Buddhist Prayer for Peace)

Lord, you are the one who does not hesitate to respond to our call.  
Lord, you are the cornerstone of peace.  
Lord, strengthen us to create peace.

Oh God, lead us from violence to peace.  
Oh God, lead us from darkness to light.  
Oh God, lead us from death to immortality.  
Oh Lord God almighty, may there be peace on earth.  
May the waters be appeasing.  
May herbs be wholesome, and may trees and plants bring peace to all.  
May we be your hands to propagate peace all through the world.  
May all things be a source of peace to us.  
And may your peace itself, bestowed peace on all. (from Hindu Prayer for Peace)

Lord, you are the one who does not hesitate to respond to our call.  
Lord, you are the cornerstone of peace.  
Lord, strengthen us to create peace.
Hymn: *World Peace Prayer*

**Refrain**

Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth, from despair to hope, from fear to trust. Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace; let peace fill our hearts, let peace fill our world, let peace fill our universe.

**Verses**

1. Still all the angry cries, still all the angry guns,
2. So many lonely hearts, so many broken lives,
3. Let justice ever roll, let mercy fill the earth,

still now your people die, earth’s sons and daughters,
longing for love to break into their darkness,
let us begin to grow into your people.

Let justice roll, let mercy pour down,
Come, teach us love, come, teach us peace,
We can be love, we can bring peace,

D.C.

come and teach us your way of compassion,
come and teach us your way of compassion,
we can still be your way of compassion.
Prayer for Peace  
*Prayer from the World Council of Churches - Decade to Overcome Violence*

God of all goodness, You have been our refuge from generation to generation. Your will is that peace should shine on all people everywhere. With your spirit, guide the efforts of humankind to bring peace and justice to the nations of the earth, and give strength to rulers and all who work to establish peace and justice in the world.

Inspire those who come together in search of ways to bring about peace, and through your word, change the hearts of all people so that we shall strive for; Peace and not war, the Common good, rather than individual wellbeing, Your Justice, instead of our own glory.

You have given us your peace. Enable us to share that peace with those around us, so that love and harmony may be always present in our lives, that all the world may know happiness, that we may live with dignity as brothers and sisters, and that all may rejoice in your presence. United in diversity, we call upon your infinite grace, humbly asking you to receive our prayer and make us instruments of your peace.  

*Amen*

May Peace Prevail on Earth!

We pray for light in the people of North America  
May enlightenment be in North America  
May light be with us always.  

**May peace prevail on Earth.**

We pray for light in the people of South America  
May enlightenment be in South America  
May light be with us always.  

**May peace prevail on Earth.**

We pray for light in the people of Europe  
May enlightenment be in Europe  
May light be with us always.  

**May peace prevail on Earth.**

We pray for light in the people of Africa  
May enlightenment be in Africa  
May light be with us always.  

**May peace prevail on Earth.**

We pray for light in the people of Asia  
May enlightenment be in Asia  
May light be with us always.  

**May peace prevail on Earth.**

We pray for light in the people of Australia  
May enlightenment be in Australia  
May light be with us all ways.  

**May peace prevail on Earth.**

We pray for light in the people of Antarctica  
May enlightenment be in Antarctica  
May light be with us always.  

**May peace prevail on Earth.**  

*AMEN*
Prayer from Jamaica  (source unknown: sent by Rev. John Carden)

Keep your church free, that it may be the channel through which justice and peace, integrity and wholeness, harmony and goodwill may flow to the dispossessed and the desperate, that your Kingdom may come in all its fulfillment of life and health and peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  **AMEN**

Closing Prayer

*Travelling the Road of Faith: Worship resources from the Corrymeela Community, Belfast, Northern Ireland.*

**God of compassion and mercy,**
We bring to you our divided society and our broken world,
Seeking your healing and transforming grace;
It is easy for us to point the finger at others,
Yet we know that we all need your forgiveness;
So we lift into your presence today,
not only the victims of your conflicts,
But also those we have called enemies.
Break down the walls of hatred, distrust and bitterness
And open a way for us to reach one another
in truth and love.
Enable us to build a society where all can belong;
To share our gifts in mutual respect
And to seek for the new future which you offer us.
**Through Jesus Christ, Amen.**

A Franciscan Benediction

May God bless you with discomfort
At easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships
So that you may live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger
At injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people,
So that you may work for justice, freedom, and peace.

May God bless you with tears
To shed for those who suffer pain, rejection, hunger and war,
So that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and
To turn their pain into joy.

And may God bless you with enough foolishness
To believe that you can make a difference in the world,
So that you can do what others claim cannot be done
To bring justice and kindness to all our children and the poor.
**Amen**

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