A Prayer for Peace

How do we pray for peace from half a world away?
How can words salve and soothe real wounds?
Assuage real fears, Wipe tears from real eyes?
God of endless compassion, transform our prayers
From words into bridges, that span the distances
Between us, uniting our hearts in yours.
Every time we turn our keys in a lock,
May we remember all who are losing their homes.
Every time we step into our cars,
May we remember all who are having to flee.
Every time we embrace our children,
May we remember all who are trying to shield theirs from war.
May our besieged sisters and brothers
Be drawn into the arms of the suffering Christ,
And may our cry be heard as one voice,
Ringing out from every corner of the earth:
God of endless mercy, grant us peace.

Cameron Bellm

https://www.jesuits.org/stories/a-prayer-for-peace/
Prayer for peace in Ukraine

God of Mercy,
We pray for Ukraine.
For all of humanity distorted by war.
For all the lives lost, homes seized, and peace broken.
May the Spirit of comfort and compassion envelop all who dwell in fear.
May the Spirit of wisdom and humility enliven our global leaders.
May we affirm the dignity and rights of all.
May we seek peace.
Amen.
https://today.salve.edu/prayer-for-peace-in-ukraine/

A prayer for Ukraine

Loving God,
We pray for the people of Ukraine, for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them.
We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices.
We pray for the world that in this moment of crisis, we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters in need.
May we walk in your ways so that peace and justice become a reality for the people of Ukraine and for all the world.
Amen.
https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Prayer-resources/A-prayer-for-Ukraine
A Prayer for Ukraine from the Church of Scotland

Lord God,
We ask you to hold the people of Ukraine deep in your heart.
Protect them, we pray;
from violence,
from political gamesmanship,
from being used and abused.
Give, we pray,
the nations of the world the courage
and the wisdom
to stand up for justice
and the courage too,
to dare to care—generously.
Lord, in your mercy,
take from us all
the tendencies in us
that seek to lord it over others:
take from us those traits
that see us pursuing our own needs and wants
before those of others.
Teach us how-to live-in love
and dignity
and respect—following your example.
In your name and for your sake,
Amen

—Issued by Lord Wallace, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and the Very Rev. Dr. Susan Brown, convener of the Faith Impact Forum, Church of Scotland
A Prayer for Ukraine

God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.
We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion
to guide their decisions.
Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.
Amen.
(Church of England)

Prayer for peace in Ukraine

Holy and Gracious God
We pray for the people of Ukraine and the people of Russia; for their countries and their leaders.
We pray for all those who are afraid; that your everlasting arms hold them in this time of great fear.
We pray for all those who have the power over life and death; that they will choose for all people life, and life in all its fullness.
We pray for those who choose war; that they will remember that you direct your people to turn our swords into ploughshares and seek for peace.
We pray for leaders on the world stage; that they are inspired by the wisdom and courage of Christ.
Above all, Lord, today we pray for peace for Ukraine.
And we ask this in the name of your blessed Son.
Lord have mercy.
Amen
Prayer for Ukraine

God of infinite mercy and goodness,
with grateful hearts we pray to you today for Peace. You offer us your peace continually (Jn.14:27) and constantly remind us that peacemakers are blessed, “for they shall be called children of God” (Mt.5:9). May your voice resound in the hearts of all, as you call us to follow the path of reconciliation and peace, and to be merciful as you are merciful.

We pray to you for the people of the Ukraine who are experiencing conflicts and deaths. Bless the leaders with wisdom, vision and perseverance needed to build together a world of justice and solidarity, and to break down walls of hostility and division.

To you we entrust all families and pray that they may never yield to discouragement and despair, but become heralds of new hope to one another in this challenging time.

May you continue to inspire all of us to oneness of heart and mind, to work generously for the common good, to respect the dignity of every person and the fundamental rights which have their origin in the image and likeness of God impressed upon every human being.

Grant eternal rest to the dead and quick recovery to the wounded, we pray through Christ our Lord, Amen!

Prayer adapted from: Pope JPII’s Prayer for Peace, shared by St. Stephen Protomartyr Ukrainian Catholic Church, Calgary https://www.catholicyyc.ca/blog/pray-for-ukraine
A Jewish Prayer for Ukraine

May God grant the Ukrainian people the fortitude
to resist and reverse any onslaught from Russia.
May the defeat of Putin’s army bring about a rebirth of freedom
for the Russian people.

May Russia and its neighbors live together in amity through democracy.
May the hope of the Rosh Hashanah liturgy ring throughout the land —

May all evil dissipate like smoke, for the removal of tyranny ushers in the overall
reign of God. Peace for all.
Amen.

This prayer for Ukraine, written by Reuven Kimelman, professor of classical rabbinic literature, is inspired
by the liturgy of Rosh Hashanah.

Prayers for Ukraine – National Council of Churches

Gracious and Merciful God,
We pray today for the Ukrainian people and ask for Your
intervention in this senseless war levied against them by
Russia. We pray, O God, for protection and that there would be peace. We pray for
restoration and renewed hope. We pray for the families, especially, the children
living through the horrors of war and all the upheaval and tribulation it brings. We
also pray for those protesting in Russia against these violent acts by their
government. We ask that You protect, cover and keep these protesters as they put
their bodies on the line in the name of what is just and righteous. We pray for the
entire world community, including the leaders in our own country. Give them
wisdom and ingenuity to respond in ways that ends this war and moves us all to a
world where Your peace abides. Hear the cries of Your people, O God. Lord, have
mercy. Christ, have mercy. Amen.

From Dr. Tony Kireopoulus, Associate General Secretary, Faith and Order and Interfaith Relations: National Council of Churches
**Lord, Jesus Christ:**
You said, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you” (John 14:27a). We join our prayers to those of the people of Ukraine, who look to the heavens for peace and protection during this time of violence and oppression. And we ask for your mercy, that it may change the hearts and minds of those who have chosen the path of destruction.

**Holy Spirit:**
Knowing that war can bring about only suffering and death, we look to you to bring about reconciliation between the peoples of Ukraine and Russia. And together with them, we pray “for the peace of the whole world...for every city and land...[and] for our deliverance from all afflictions, wrath, danger and necessity...Amen.”

[http://nationalcouncilofchurches.us/prayers-for-ukraine/](http://nationalcouncilofchurches.us/prayers-for-ukraine/)

### A Prayer for Ukraine from Archbishop of York

God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them
We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion
to guide their decisions.
Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.
Amen.

*Archbishop Justin Welby*
*Archbishop Stephen Cottrell*
[https://www.archbishopofyork.org/prayer-ukraine](https://www.archbishopofyork.org/prayer-ukraine)
Prayers of intercession for Ukraine

We pray for the Church: that in this time of crisis, she may speak words of truth and justice, act with compassion and be a sign of Christ's love for all those who are suffering. Lord in your mercy...

We pray for world leaders, that guided by integrity and wisdom, they may work together so that peace may flourish. Lord in your mercy...

We pray for all those caught up in violence, remembering especially the people of Ukraine; that in this time of fear and conflict, they may know God's presence and peace. Lord in your mercy...

We pray for all those suffering from hunger as a result of conflict and injustice, in countries such as Sierra Leone, Afghanistan and Ethiopia. Lord in your mercy....

We pray for our parish and our local community: that in this time of Lent, we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters in need. Lord in your mercy...

https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Prayer-resources/A-prayer-for-Ukraine

Prayer for Peace in Ukraine – Taizé Community, France

Risen Christ, as we remain in silence before you, we let this ardent prayer rise up: may the firing of weapons in the land of Ukraine cease! Welcome into your love those who are dying from violence and war, console the families in mourning, support those who have had to take the road of exodus. Faced with incomprehensible suffering, we still believe that your words of love and peace will never pass. You gave your life on the cross and you opened a future for us, even beyond death. So we implore you: give us your peace. You are our hope.

God of love, we are disconcerted by the violence in our world, and especially now by the acts of war in Ukraine. Enable us to stand in solidarity with those who suffer, and who live today in fear and anxiety. Sustain the hope of all those, in this beloved part of the world, who seek justice and peace. Send the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of peace, to inspire the leaders of nations and all human beings.

https://www.taize.fr/en_article33422.html
INTERFAITH PRAYERS FOR PEACE

Native American Prayer for Peace
O Great Spirit of our Ancestors, I raise my pipe to you.
To your messengers the four winds, and to Mother Earth who provides for your children.

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 the good things you provide for us on this Earth.

- Author Unknown

Sikh Prayers for Peace
God adjudges 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 attaineth God when we loveth, and only that victory endures in consequence of which no one is defeated. Know that we attain God when we love, and only that victory endures in consequence of which no one is defeated

- Author Unknown

Muslim Prayer for Peace
In the name of Allah, 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. If the enemy incline towards peace, do thou also incline towards peace, and trust in God, for the Lord is the one that heareth and knoweth all things. And the servants of God, Most Gracious are those who walk on the Earth in humility, and when we address them, we say "PEACE."
Jewish Prayer for Peace
Come let us go up to 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.

- Author Unknown

Sufi Prayer for Peace
O Almighty Sun, whose light clears away all clouds, We take refuge in you. Guide of all people, God of all deities, Lord of all angels, We pray you to dispel the mists of illusion from the hearts of the nations And lift their lives by your all-sufficient power, Your ever shining light, your everlasting life, Your heavenly joy and your perfect peace.

Zoroastrian Prayer for Peace
We pray to God to eradicate all the misery in the world: that understanding triumph over ignorance, that generosity triumph over indifference, that trust triumph over contempt, and that truth triumph over falsehood.
We Are One With You

O God, we are one with you. You have made us one with you. You have taught us that if we are open to one another, you dwell in us. Help us to preserve this openness and to fight for it with all our hearts. Help us to realize that there can be no understanding where there is mutual rejection. O God, in accepting one another wholeheartedly, fully, completely, we accept you, and we thank you, and we adore you, and we love you with our whole being, because our being is your being, our spirit is rooted in your spirit. Fill us then with love and let us be bound together with love as we go our diverse ways, united in this one spirit which makes you present in the world, and which makes you witness to the ultimate reality that is love. Love has overcome. Love is victorious.

- Thomas Merton (1915-1968)

A Hindu Peace Prayer

I desire neither earthly kingdom, nor even freedom from birth and death. I desire only the deliverance from grief of all those afflicted by misery. Oh Lord, lead us from the unreal to the real; from darkness to light; from death to immortality.

May there be peace in celestial regions.
May there be peace on earth.
May the waters be appeasing.

May herbs be wholesome and may trees and plants brings peace to all.
May all beneficent brings peace to us.
May your wisdom spread peace all through the world.
May all things be a source of peace to all and to me.

Om Shanti, Shanti, Shanti (Peace, peace, peace)

- M.K. Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence
Prayer for Peace

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace;
Where there is hated, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is discord, harmony;
Where there is error, truth;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
And where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, Grant that I may no so much seek
To be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
And it is in dying that we are born into eternal life.

Attributed to St. Francis of Assisi

Interfaith Prayers for Peace retrieved from:
https://www.xavier.edu/jesuitresource/online-resources/prayer-index/prayers-for-peace#:%3E;~text=O%20God!,and%20returns%20to%20you.
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