

Prayers

A Prayer for Peace

God of peace and justice,
In a world so often torn by violence, hatred, and fear,
we lift our hearts to You with sorrow and with hope.
You are the One who stills the storm,
who brings comfort to the broken-hearted,
and who calls us to be peacemakers in Your name.

We pray today for the people of Ukraine.
For those living under threat of invasion or bombardment,
for those who have fled their homes in search of safety,
for families separated, lives disrupted, and dreams destroyed.
Lord, grant them strength for each day,
protection in danger, and hope in despair.

We pray too for the Middle East,
for Israel and Palestine, for Gaza, for Lebanon and Syria,
and for all places where ancient wounds and present tensions spill into
bloodshed.
Lord, we weep with those who have lost loved ones,
who live under siege or in fear,
and whose futures are shaped by conflict they did not choose.

We pray for leaders, worldwide and local,
that they would seek wisdom, courage, and compassion.
May power not be used for personal gain or political pride,
but for the healing of nations and the dignity of all people.
Turn hearts away from vengeance and violence,
and towards reconciliation, truth, and peace.

God of all people,
remind us that each person, be they friend or stranger, neighbour or enemy,
is made in Your image and loved by You.
When we feel powerless, stir us to pray.
When we feel overwhelmed, remind us that peace begins with kindness,
with listening, with justice, with love.

In a world divided by war,
make us instruments of Your peace.
Where there is hatred, let us sow love.
Where there is injury, pardon.
Where there is despair, hope.

Until the day when swords are beaten into ploughshares,
and all tears are wiped away,
keep us faithful in prayer, persistent in love,
and rooted in the peace of Christ.

Amen.

A Prayer for Summer

Creator God,
We thank You for the gift of summer,
for long days bathed in golden light,
for warmth that touches both skin and spirit,
for time to rest, to travel, to play, and to grow.

We see Your beauty in sunlit fields,
in gardens bursting with colour,
and in the laughter of children enjoying the freedom of the season.
May we not rush past these moments, but pause to wonder and give thanks.

As we find rest, may we also find renewal.
Restore our bodies with sleep, our minds with stillness,
and our hearts with joy.
For those who do not find rest this season,
those who work tirelessly, who struggle in heat,
who face loneliness or loss,
we ask for Your comfort and peace.

Help us to carry the light of summer into the rest of the year,
that the warmth of Your love may remain in us always.
Teach us to notice Your presence in every season,
and to share the fruits of summer – kindness, generosity, and joy – with others.

In Jesus' name we pray,
Amen.