

Prayer for Peace

Aligned with the Mercy Critical Concern of Nonviolence

Opening Song:

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J6V11ECXFYw>

Collect:

Pope Leo's Prayer for Peace

In Honor of the Year of St. Francis

Saint Francis, our brother, you who eight hundred years ago went to meet Sister Death as a man at peace, intercede for us before the Lord.

You recognized true peace in the Crucifix of San Damiano, teach us to seek in him the source of all reconciliation that breaks down every wall.

You who, unarmed, crossed the lines of war and misunderstanding, give us the courage to build bridges where the world raises up boundaries.

In this time afflicted by conflict and division, intercede for us so that we may become peacemakers: unarmed and disarming witnesses of the peace that comes from Christ.

Amen.

Light a Peace Candle:

God of peace, as we light this candle, may your peace fill our hearts and our world. Help us to be peacemakers in our relationships and communities. May this candle and its light bring comfort to the frightened. Let this light remind us that love and compassion will always outshine fear and hatred. Amen.

Pausing in the Quiet:

(hold space for quiet meditation)

Song of Meditation:

It is Well With My Soul

-Audrey Assad

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zY5o9mP22V0>

Offering Intentions:

Adapted from Intercessions of Mercy, page 324.

Jesus, we ask that your wisdom and courage may constantly guide the decisions and actions of government leaders for the benefit of everyone they serve.

That public servants, inspired by Christ's love, will seek ways to foster peace and justice in all lands, let us pray:

Christ, Lord of Life and Prince of Peace, hear our prayer.

That those who govern nations will make decisions based on the welfare of their people rather than on access to wealth or power, let us pray:

Christ, Lord of Life and Prince of Peace, hear our prayer.

That world leaders will find a way to bring peace and justice to the region of Jesus' birth, let us pray:

Christ, Lord of Life and Prince of Peace, hear our prayer.

That political leaders at all levels will consciously choose life-giving solutions to societal problems, let us pray:

Christ, Lord of Life and Prince of Peace, hear our prayer.

That rulers in countries, states, cities, and all civic domains will open their eyes and quicken their response to the needs of their citizens, let us pray:

Christ, Lord of Life and Prince of Peace, hear our prayer.

That governmental leaders will find ways to restore hope and dignity to those suffering from war and natural disasters, let us pray:

Christ, Lord of Life and Prince of Peace, hear our prayer.

That all who lead may be mindful of the voices of those who suffer at the margins of society, let us pray:

Christ, Lord of Life and Prince of Peace, hear our prayer.

For peacemakers, that guided by God's plan to unite all humanity in one family and inspired to promote the true progress of peoples, they would serve the common good with love, let us pray:

Christ, Lord of Life and Prince of Peace, hear our prayer.

We pray for peace, we also pray for all those innocent affected by wars, we pray for all who are displaced, whose lives are disrupted, and who live in fear of the atrocities of war, for peace and for them, let us pray:

Christ, Lord of Life and Prince of Peace, hear our prayer.

For what other prayers do we pray this day?

We pray to the Lord...**Lord Hear Our Prayer**

Closing Prayer:

Adapted from Intercessions of Mercy, page 325.

Gracious God, your Son Jesus Christ was born to us through the “yes” of Mary. In him we have an example of compassionate leadership and merciful service. Help us and our leaders to follow his example in all things. We make this prayer, united in Mercy with Catherine McAuley and Frances Warde on whose shoulders we stand, and through Jesus our brother. Amen.

Closing Song: Peace is Flowing Like a River v.1-3

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sc21ScL6CJc&list=RDsc21ScL6CJc&start_radio=1



Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Verses 1, 2, 4



1. Make me a chan - nel of your peace. Where
2. Make me a chan - nel of your peace. Where
4. Make me a chan - nel of your peace. It



there is ha - tred, let me bring your love. Where
there's de - spir in life, let me bring hope. Where
is in par - don - ing that we are par - doned, in



there is in - ju - ry, your par - don, Lord, And
there is dark - ness, on - ly light, And
giv - ing of our - selves that we re - ceive, and in



where there's doubt, true faith in you.
where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy.
dy - ing that we're born to e - ter - nal life.

Verse 3



3. Oh, Mas - ter, grant that I may nev - er seek So much to be con -



soled as to con - sole. To be un - der - stood as to un - der -



stand. To be loved as to love with all my soul.

Text: *Prayer of St. Francis*; adapt. by Sebastian Temple, 1928–1997
Tune: Sebastian Temple, 1928–1997; acc. by Robert J. Batastini, b.1942
© 1967, OCP
Dedicated to Mrs. Frances Tracy

Peace Is Flowing Like a River

$\text{♩} = 60$
G

1 Peace is flow - ing like a riv - er,
2 Joy is flow - ing like a riv - er,
3 Love is flow - ing like a riv - er,
4 Hope is flow - ing like a riv - er,

flow - ing

flow - ing out from you and me,
out from you and me,

flow - ing out in - to the des - ert,
set - ting

set - ting all the cap - tives free.
all the cap - tives free.

D7 G

Performance notes: You may begin and end by humming through the piece in four parts.
Sing "At Your Altars" before and after this piece for a simple anthem setting.

Suggested use: interfaith service, Advent candle lighting

WORDS: Anonymous

MUSIC: Traditional melody; arr. Daniel Charles Damon

Music Arr. © 2014 Hope Publishing Company

PEACE IS FLOWING

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