

Prayers 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

Archbishop Justin Welby & Archbishop Stephen Cottrell

God of peace, your prophet Isaiah promised
swords would be turned into ploughshares,
and your son's mother Mary proclaimed
the mighty would be put down and the humble exalted:
visit the people of Ukraine;
deliver them from fear, violence,
attack, injury, destruction, death;
and give them courage, solidarity and allies
in their hour of vulnerability and sorrow.
Turn the hearts of those bent on war and invasion.
Strengthen the hand of all seeking to halt conflict,
restore order, and pursue justice.
And make this moment of peril
an occasion for your Holy Spirit to show your world
the cost of conflict and our dependence on one another.
In Christ our Lord, who went to his death because of our hatred,
and rose again because our hatred
is never stronger than your indomitable love.
Amen

Revd Dr Sam Wells, Vicar, St Martin-in-the-Fields

Father of Creation,
God of Peace,
Our hearts are heavy,
Our souls are sad,
As we wake up to the news,
Of war.

Lord have mercy,
Christ have mercy.

Father of Creation,
God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
The anxiety we feel,
Is nothing compared to that which,

People like us,
Must feel within Ukraine

Lord have mercy
Christ have mercy

So we plead for peace,
In the name of him who said blessed are the peacemakers.

And so we beg for mercy,
In the name of him who said blessed are the peacemakers

We lift up to you the people of Ukraine,
For Men, Women and children
For those locked down at home,
For those fleeing in fear

Lord have mercy,
Christ have mercy.

We lift up to you the Church in Russia,
May it raise up its prophetic voice,
To proclaim 'Lay down the Sword'
We lift up to you the Church in Russia,
May it raise up its prophetic voice,
To say 'Take up the cross'
Blessed are the peacemakers.

Lord have mercy,
Christ have mercy.

We lift up to you the church in Ukraine,
May it raise up a prophetic voice,
To comfort those who mourn.

We lift up to you the church in Ukraine,
May it look and love like Jesus,
To comfort those who mourn.
Blessed are the peacemakers.

Lord have mercy,
Christ have mercy.

Father of Creation,
God of the Nations,
Bring down the beast of militarism which brings destruction and
desolation,
Silence the warmongers who add fuel to the fires of this conflict,

Father of Creation,
God of Peace,
We pray for world leaders,
That you would give them courage and wisdom,

To enact love and embrace justice
To stand strong with peaceable hearts
Against bullies and despots
Who sanction carnage
And command conflict
Blessed are the peacemakers.

Lord have mercy
Christ have mercy

Father of Creation
God of Justice,
We pray for the cessation of war,
And the flourishing of peace,
Blessed are the peacemakers,

Lord have mercy,
Christ have mercy.

God, our refuge and strength,
bring near the day when wars shall cease and poverty and pain shall end,
that earth may know the peace of heaven through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Jon Swales

Dear Heavenly Father,

We really don't know how to pray for this crisis so we ask for your Spirit to help us to intercede on behalf of the people of Ukraine.

First we pray for PEACE over Ukraine and over all the nations. Bring about a peaceful resolution to this conflict.

2 Thessalonians 3:16

Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always in every way.
The Lord [be] with you all.

We stand united in the authority we have in Christ and resist this evil force of death and destruction. We bind the demonic forces behind this invasion and cause them to flee.

James 4:7

Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

We pray for safety and minimal loss of life. We ask that you save families, children, mothers, fathers and whole communities displaced by this invasion.

Numbers 6:24-26

"The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace." '

We ask for wisdom for our politicians and world leaders involved with mediation and peaceful intervention. Grant them Grace, insight and courage to stem this wave of violence and destruction.

Colossians 1:9

For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

We pray for the Church in Ukraine that no matter what happens, she will remain strong, united and kept by your Spirit. Release your Angels to minister to her as she walks through this trial.

Romans 8:35-37

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? [Shall] tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 As it is written: "For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter." 37 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

Lastly, Father we pray for your WILL to be done and your KINGDOM come in the Earth. Come Lord and bring your Eternal Peace upon our World.

Matthew 6:9-10

"In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. 10 Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as [it is] in heaven.

Amen National Day of Prayer and Worship

The Chief Rabbi of Ukraine has asked for Christians to recite Psalm 31 aloud. (This is only a small piece of it below) Ukraine has a sizable Jewish minority of at least 50,000 people. Historically the Jewish people have faced a lot of persecution under Russian rule.

Psalm 31 21-24

21 Praise be to the Lord,
for he showed me the wonders of his love
when I was in a city under siege.
22 In my alarm I said,
"I am cut off from your sight!"
Yet you heard my cry for mercy
when I called to you for help.
23 Love the Lord, all his faithful people!
The Lord preserves those who are true to him,
but the proud he repays in full.
24 Be strong and take heart,
all you who hope in the Lord.

From Richard Rohr's discussion group on Facebook:

Lots on Facebook re praying for Ukraine, but we need to be praying equally for Russia and its people.

In saying this I am just repeating what Jesus said, "pray for your enemies", or those we perceive as enemies. As I age I understand this instruction better:

It becomes too easy for us to demonize one group and then join in thinking it is ok to bomb innocent people on one side of the fence or the other. But the truth is that just as the fallout from nuclear bombs cannot be contained by any arbitrary National "fence", neither can our hostile energies be contained; they contaminate the collective unconscious and those close to us. Violence within and without damages our World. It draws energy away from the reconstructive work we need to do to heal an already polluted Earth.

So I am praying for peace in us all, in NATO and among the people of the Ukraine and Russia. We are neighbours; may we somehow learn to respect and care for each other and may those who value peace find ways to stop this conflict from escalating for the sake of all the holy innocent children, animals and plants in our world.

"I No Longer Pray For Peace"

A Poem by Ann Weems

On the edge of war, one foot already in,
I no longer pray for peace:
I pray for miracles.
I pray that stone hearts will turn
to tenderheartedness,
and evil intentions will turn
to mercifulness,
and all the soldiers already deployed
will be snatched out of harm's way,
and the whole world will be
astounded onto its knees.
I pray that all the "God talk"
will take bones,
and stand up and shed
its cloak of faithlessness,
and walk again in its powerful truth.
I pray that the whole world might
sit down together and share
its bread and its wine.
Some say there is no hope,
but then I've always applauded the holy fools
who never seem to give up on
the scandalousness of our faith:
that we are loved by God.....
that we can truly love one another.
I no longer pray for peace:
I pray for miracles.

Miracles are happening

Here is a report which I received from a Christian leader:

God Almighty is at work! I hear it from everyone. Russian rockets dropped without explosion. Promised IL-76 and Grad never showed up. Enemy tanks run out of fuel suddenly. Russian occupants demoralized and got lost. They walk in fields and villages asking locals for bread and direction. Oleksiy, pastor of Pentecostal Church in Bucha, where most severe battle happened during Sunday: "Ukrainian soldiers and officers telling me they are witnessing miracles from above. It is not our achievement only", they say.

Despite tiredness, they renew in strength being witnesses of Lord. They also get support from civilians, pastor states.

Though the face of our cities and towns are changed and we cry hardly recognizing our streets, people remain strong. Kyiv stands on its feet. Actually not only stands, the city works: checkpoints shifts change, donors line up to give blood, ladies join supermarket teams to provide bread, young people take food packs to seniors. Kyiv end every regional center are under Ukrainian flags. God is at work.

YK from Kyiv

Bishop Robert Innes

Chernobyl radiation risk because no changes of staff

The Benedictus

More than a few have said that they're ashamed of being Russian

How to help:

Pray!

Donations to Red Cross or UNHCR

or via the Diocese in Europe to the Mission & Ministry of the Ukrainian Church