



THE INTERNATIONAL PRAYER FOR PEACE

Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth

Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust

Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace

Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe

2025 ~ 2026

Free

Shared Faith Worship

Just over fifty years ago, leaders from various faiths joined together and wrote: "In the turmoil of a world increasingly dominated by violence and characterised by bewilderment and confusion created by the apparent impotence of man to alleviate suffering caused by injustice except by more recourse to violence, it seems to us that an unprecedented spiritual initiative is urgently required. We therefore wish to commend the idea of the World Week of Prayer for Peace." Sadly those words apply more today than ever.

In these last five decades, the interfaith Week of Prayer for World Peace has taken place each October. Bringing together people from all faith communities and none, it has given a chance to learn and share.

In 1974, the founders went on to write words that could have been written today, "The situation is urgent. Violent conflict within nations and the ever-present threat of war between nations or races pose unprecedented dangers. The delicately interwoven structures of modern society and the contraction of the world by speedy communications have made every part of the globe immediately vulnerable to the effects of any outbreak of violent conflict. But these same factors also offer an unprecedented opportunity to create a quickened sense of humanity. Therein lies the overwhelming need for a Week of Prayer for World Peace."

You are invited to use the prayers/thoughts/poems in this resource for individual and corporate use throughout the year as well as during the WPWP. (See the inside of the back cover for ordering more copies). Quotes and poems are included in this Resource as an aid to prayer. As George Macleod (founder of the Iona Community), wrote: "Where people are praying for peace the cause of peace is strengthened by their very act of prayer, for they are themselves becoming immersed in the spirit of peace."

Our overall theme this year is 'Continuing to pray with hope in a troubled world'. Quotes and poems are included in this Resource as an aid to prayer

Our Founders described the world 50 years ago as one 'in turmoil and increasing violence'.

*Today that is still true, but we continue to 'pray with hope' for the peace that our world is so lacking.
Week of Prayer for World Peace runs from 12-19 October 2025
We pray with hope not just for a week but for the year.*

An interfaith gathering of prayer and peace

The Annual Gathering will again this year be a virtual one.

We will be using Zoom and hope that people you will join us from wherever you are
It will be held on **Sunday, 12th October 2025 at 3:30-4:30pm** (UK) (open from 3pm)
There will also be one on the same day for the Pacific time zones

With music, prayers, storytelling and the presentation of the
2025 Wilson/Hinkes Peace Award.

This is an opportunity to join together to pray and witness for peace.
Further details on the website or email: wpwp2021@yahoo.com for the zoom link

Would you like to support the Week of Prayer for World Peace
to help us continue our work?

Please make a donation:-

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Cheques: Week of Prayer for World Peace and posted to:

Treasurer, WPWP, 36 Board School Road, Woking, Surrey GU21 5HE

DAY 1—PRAYING FOR WORLD LEADERS

Great spirit, we humbly ask that you guide the hearts of our world leaders with the wisdom of the ancient trees, the strength of the mountains and the compassion of the flowing rivers.

May their decisions reflect the balance of nature, ensuring that all people and all creatures thrive in harmony on this Sacred Earth.

We pray for their ears to hear the cries of the most vulnerable and their eyes to see the interconnectedness of all life.

May they lead with humility and compassion, honouring the sacred web of existence, and acting as stewards of our planet for generations to come.

First Nations Prayer

Eternal God, Fount of wisdom, we ask you to bless the national leaders we have elected. Grant that through their discussions and decisions we may solve our problems effectively, enhance the well-being of our nation, and achieve together a fairer and more united society.

A New Zealand Prayer Book (adapted)

He who forgives and seeks reconciliation shall be rewarded by Allah.

Muslim, Quran, Chapter 42

We have enjoined upon all mankind to establish the Most Great Peace – the surest of all means for the protection of humanity. The sovereigns for the world should, with one accord, hold fast thereunto, for this is the supreme instrument that can ensure the security and welfare of all peoples and nations. They, verily, are the manifestations of the power of God and the daysprings of His authority. We beseech the Almighty that He may graciously assist them in that which is conducive to the well-being of their subjects.

Baha'u'llah, Baha'i Faith

It is not non-violence if we merely love those that love us. It is non-violence only when we love those that hate us. I know how difficult it is to follow this grand law of love. But are not all great and good things difficult to do? Love of the hater is the most difficult of all. But by the grace of God even this most difficult of things becomes easy to accomplish if we want to do it.

Mahatma Gandhi

God of history, we yearn for true leadership. For men and women of inspiration and insight,

visionaries to build nations and communities in Your image. Stewards dedicated to justice, unafraid to face the challenges of our day, so that our cities and countries resonate with compassion and health, justice and mercy, kindness and peace. Bless our leaders with dedication and foresight, fortitude and imagination

to solve the complex issues that threaten our future.

May they lead us to a time when neighbours embrace, and the communities thrive. A time when liberty and equality reign supreme.

Source and Shelter, grant safety and security to all nations and communities,

So that truth and harmony will resound from the four corners of the earth.

Let the light of wisdom shine brightly in the halls of power, a beacon of hope for every land and every people.

Union for Reform Judaism

The leader to be selected for people of the world should be neither unjust nor cruel, but a very kind non-inimical person.

Zoroastrian Gathas

Lord of peace, be with those who guide the destinies of the world so that an end may come to boasting and vainglory and the reign of arrogance dwindle in our time, so that we may stand upright, freed from the burden of fear and the weight of suspicion, learning to trust each other.

Jewish

May the breath of life guide our leader with clarity and strength.

Let wisdom rise from the land, and courage flow like the rivers.

May they walk with humility, speak with truth, and act with compassion.

Let their decisions be rooted in whakapapa, honouring those who came before.

May they uphold mana, protect the mauri of the people and the whenua.

Let the spirit of unity bind us, and the light of understanding lead us forward.

May they be a guardian of justice, a weaver of relationships, and a bearer of hope.

In the rhythm of the ancestors and the pulse of the present, may leadership flourish for the good of all.

Maori Prayer

DAY 2-REFUGEES

Peace prayer

We thank you for the shelter of a home and
remember those who have none

We thank you for food to eat and remember those
who have little or none

We thank you for water to drink and wash in and
remember those for whom this is scarce or
contaminated

We thank you for our bodies and remember those
who are maimed or disabled

We thank you for jobs to go to and remember those
who have none for their workplace no longer exists

We thank you for family and friends and remember
those who have none left

We thank you for gardens and parks and views and
remember those for who can only stare at miles of
dust and grey rubble

We thank you for the joy of a holiday and
remember those for whom every day is the same
We thank you for modern medicine and remember
those for whom the resources are basic; hospitals a
shell

We thank you for our safety and freedoms and
remember those who are trapped; imprisoned;
living in danger or persecution

We have gratitude for all our blessings

We thank you and remember

Lest we get complacent and forget.

WPPW

Let us remember charities and faith groups who
support refugees and asylum seekers. May children
and young people be helped to have empathy and
understand why families are forced to leave their
homes in other countries. All are children of God
worthy of care and respect.

Brahma Kumaris

Help us to remember those who tonight will go to
sleep unfed and unwelcome,
strangers in foreign lands, people who have fled for
their lives and are far from their homes.

We lift up to you those who are escaping
persecution and conflict, having fled death, torture
or ruthless exploitation.

So many carry wounds, mental and physical. So
many have suffered greatly.

Give us more of your compassion for their plight,

soften our hearts to their situation,
and help us follow in seeking justice and mercy on
their behalf.

We pray for an end to the wars, poverty and
human rights abuses that drive desperate people to
become refugees in the first place.

We give thanks for people working in troubled
countries and ask for more of
your blessing so we can bring life, dignity and hope
to those that remain.

We thank you that you are Lord of all the earth and
all its people are loved by you.

World Day of Migrants and Refugees 2024

May all beings live in security and in peace.

Whether frail or strong, big or small, visible or not
visible, near or far, already born or yet to be born -
may all beings dwell in tranquillity. Let no one do
harm. Let no one put the life of anyone in danger.

Let no one, out of anger or ill-will, wish harm to
others. Listen carefully. Speak kindly. Just as a
mother loves and protects her only child, so we
should cultivate friendship and kinship with all
beings. Let our friendliness pervade the whole
universe. Let our kindness know no bounds. At all
times we should be aware of how inter-connected
we are and of how each of us merits respect and
care. Being mindful of the interwoven nature of all
things, and of the brevity of each life, let us treat
everyone as our friend. Letting go of our fear, anger,
prejudice and intolerance, let us find that beauty is
everywhere and that every life is a precious gift.

At peace with ourselves let us be at peace with the
world.

Unknown

Violence, in fact, is the knot of bondage.

"Do not injure any living being." This is the eternal,
constant and unalterable way of spiritual life.

A weapon, however powerful it may be, can always
be superseded by a superior one; no weapon can,
however, be superior to non-violence and love.

Jain

DAY 3—PEACE IN OUR HEART

Peace unto every heart. Peace unto thee. Peace to foes, to enemies. Peace to those who do not see the truth. Peace and peaceful vibrations to the entire creation, the beautiful creation of that great Creator; and may peace prevail through everyone.

Sat Nam, Sikh

We all need to build temples of tolerance and peace within our own hearts. Then, wherever we go and whatever we do, we will always find refuge in the true sanctuary within.

His Eminence Shyalpa Tenzin Rinpoche, Tibetan Buddhist Monk

Deep within the still centre of my being may I find peace. Quietly, within the circle of this grove, may I share peace. Gently, within the circle of all life, may I radiate peace.

The Druids Garden

There are two wolves (love and greed) in your heart that are fighting constantly with each other. Which one do you feed each day?

Cherokee

We struggle when we search for peace outside of us. Peace is our natural internal nature; a gift from God. Sitting still and quiet, we can experience a deep peace flowing from God, in whose image we are made. May God, the Supreme Soul fill our hearts with energizing peace.

Brahma Kumaris

Victory over oneself is greater than (having) conquered thousands and thousands of enemies on the battlefield. A true conqueror is one who conquers his self.

Achorang Sutra, Jain

The hope of all men in the last analysis, is simply for peace of mind.

The Dalai Lama

Dear Lord and Father of humankind,
Forgive our foolish ways;
Reclothe us in our rightful mind,
In purer lives Thy service find,
In deeper reverence, praise.
Drop Thy still dews of quietness,
Till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress,

And let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of Thy peace.
Breathe through the heats of our desire
Thy coolness and Thy balm;
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
Speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still, small voice of calm.

John Greenleaf Whittier, Quaker

The world is changed by your example, not your opinion.

Paul Coelho

Loving God, please grant me peace of mind and calm my troubled heart. My soul is like a turbulent sea. I can't seem to find my balance, so I stumble and worry constantly. Give me the strength and clarity of mind to find my purpose and walk the path you've laid out for me.

Unknown

Real peace begins with yourself and then you pass it on.

World Peace Flame

Oh God, You are peace. From You comes peace, to You returns peace. Revive us with a salutation of peace, and lead us to Your abode of peace.

Prophet Muhammad

If there is to be peace in the world, There must be peace in the nations. If there is to be peace in the nations, There must be peace in the cities.

If there is to be peace in the cities, There must be peace between neighbours.

If there is to be peace between neighbours, There must be peace in the home.

If there is to be peace in the home, There must be peace in the heart.

Lao-Tse, Taoist Tradition

Lead us from Death to Life, from Falsehood to Truth.

Lead us from Despair to Hope, from fear to Trust

Lead us from Hate to Love, from War to Peace.

Let Peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe.
Peace, Peace, Peace

Adapted from Hindu Upanishads, Satish Kumar

DAY 4 – EDUCATION FOR PEACE

Peace education should be transformative, aiming to equip individuals with the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes necessary to build peaceful and sustainable societies. It should promote values such as tolerance, empathy, respect for diversity, and a commitment to social justice, as well as attitudes that foster constructive conflict resolution and non-violent communication. Peace education should also address the underlying causes of conflict, such as poverty, inequality, discrimination, and environmental degradation.

UNESCO

Modern education with its focus on material goals and a disregard for inner values is incomplete. There is a need to know about the workings of our minds and emotions. If we start today and make an effort to educate those who are young now in inner values, they will see a different, peaceful, more compassionate world in the future.

His Holiness the Dalai Lama

We pray for the right changes to happen in our educational systems that enable peace education to be part of the curriculum. Children don't start wars but they're the ones that suffer the most.

War Child International

It takes a village to raise a child.

African Proverb

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

Nelson Mandela

I do think every school could benefit from peer mediation. If you're motivated by peace, if you believe in peace, if you're not ashamed to talk about peace...that's when transformation can happen.

Jackie Zammit, Quaker

Lord of Peace, Divine Ruler, to whom peace belongs. Master of Peace, Creator of all things.

May it be thy will to put an end to war and bloodshed on earth, and to spread a great and wonderful peace over the whole world, so that nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. Help us and save us all, and let us cling tightly to the virtue of peace.

Let there be a truly great peace between every person and their fellow, and between husband and wife, and let there be no discord between people even in their hearts. Let us never shame any person on earth, great or small.

May it be granted unto us to fulfill Thy Commandment to 'Love thy neighbour as thyself,' with all our hearts and souls and bodies and possessions. God who is peace, bless us with peace."

Rabbi Nachman of Breslov, 1773-1810

I want to live in a world where education is taken for granted in every corner of the globe, because no-one is excluded from it. The solution is simple – the right of every girl to education.

Malala Yousafzai

Oh, Great Spirit, I pray for your blessing. I pray that you bring peace to all my brothers and sisters in this world ... 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.

Anonymous Native American

To reach peace. Teach peace.

Pope John Paul II

Peace is life
Life is freedom
Freedom is wisdom
Wisdom is education
Education is learning
Learning is giving
And giving is peace.

Johanna and Rohan, World Peace Flame

Peace and Universal Love is the essence of the Gospel preached by all Enlightened Ones.

The Lord has preached that being calm and composed is the Dharma.

Forgive do I creatures all, and let all creatures forgive me.

Unto all have I friendship, and unto none am I an enemy.

Know that violence is the root cause of all miseries in the world.

Jain

DAY 5—THE ENVIRONMENT: PEACE WITH OUR PLANET

I hold mother earth in my hands and connect to the supreme Soul, the Creator and open my soul to the purest energy of the divine. I let this divine energy flow through me with the earth in my hands. The harmony and beauty on earth is restored with the pure energy of the Creator.

Brahma Kumaris

In praise of earth
Let us thank the Earth
That offers ground for home
And holds our feet firm
Let us salute the silence
And certainty of mountains
The wonder of a garden
Trusting the first warmth of spring
The kindness of the earth,
Opening to receive
Our worn forms
Into the final stillness
Let us ask forgiveness of the earth
For all our sins against her:
For our violence and poisonings
Of her beauty.

John O'Donahue, Irish poet

Each individual has a special role to play in the protection of our small planet. It is the illumination of the individual mind and spirit that will precede the awakening of a new collective awareness. The change in individual attitudes will be the precursor of a change in institutional policies, and the result will be a greater respect and love for our planet Earth.

Sri Chinmoy, Hindu

We visualize the earth in front of us wakening our angel wings of compassion and care to heal the pain with love and mercy. We are grateful for each plant and tree, which provides nourishment for our bodies. Let us reduce waste, conserve energy, and water, and eat less meat and dairy for the benefit of our precious earth.

Brahma Kumaris

Father of Creation, God of Compassion, You created a world of wonder, of possibility and potential.
You declared it to be good. For this we give thanks.
This world is no longer as you intended it to be.
Humanity has betrayed its calling to tend and keep.

Creation groans. For this we weep. On our watch, sea levels rise, forests are destroyed, locusts swarm.

And so now with tears in our eyes we look to you, with regret, with repentance.

Knowing the difficult decades that we face, as temperatures rise, as extinctions increase.

As we come to terms with our existential plight.

For our children, for our Grandchildren, for the world's most vulnerable.

God of Compassion, wake us from our slumber.

Equip us afresh to be the justice-shaped people of God.

A Rocha International (adapted 2011)

“Isha vasyam idam sarvam, yat kinch jagatyam jagat

Tain tyaktain bhunjitha, ma gridh kasyasvid dhanam”

— Isa Upanishad, Verse 1

One translation and commentary is as follows:

Everything animate or inanimate that is within the universe is pervaded by Isha (God). One should therefore consume only what is necessary for himself, with an attitude of caring and detachment;

God has provided us with the natural abundance but one must not hoard things (that are not needed) – thus depriving others who may need them. After all, whose wealth is it? Land and its resources are not wealth of any individual, it all belongs to God.

Hindu, Australian Religious Response to Climate Change

Oh, Great Spirit,
Whose voice I hear in the winds
and whose breath gives life to all the world.
Hear me! I need your strength and wisdom.
Let me walk in beauty, and make my eyes
ever hold the red and purple sunset.
Make my hands respect the things you have made
and my ears sharp to hear your voice.
Make me wise so that I may understand
the things you have taught my people.
Let me learn the lessons you have hidden
in every leaf and rock.

Translated by Lakota Sioux Chief Yellow Lark in 1887

PRAYERS FROM THE YOUNG

Every meditation is a step closer to peace.
Every plant nurtured for is a step closer to peace.

Every kind act is a step closer to peace.

Together, we can bring peace to our homes,
nations and the world.

Kedaar, aged 10

Dear God, I thank you for all the things you have
done for all of us. Teach everyone and myself to
be grateful for everything you do for us.

Lord, please help all the people who are suffering
in times of trouble. Help people to stop wars and
help them to acknowledge peace. Help people to
take action and spread the Gospel.

Lord, forgive everyone for their sins and help us
all to help each other grow in faith and be filled
with peace together.

Danie, SVP Youth Group, Swansea

Peace is a golden spark that helps brighten up
your day

It can be found everywhere

With peace, troubles run away

And people stick together rather than saying 'I
don't care'

Tranquillity is always beautiful

And always doable

Even in the toughest times

We can have some peacetime

Let's be calm

Let's show what's right and not wrong

In friendship, we all walk hand in hand

And peacefully we will be strong

Fatima, aged 10



Peace is a love,
a hope, a gift.
It unites and uplifts the
lives of people.
It brings together all
that is good in the
world,
and reflects the heart
of God's teachings.
It is the one thing in

the world
that no one can
steal —
only dampen or
expand.
It's a road that
stretches across the
world,

with a far deeper meaning
than simply the opposite of war.

It's everything you need — and more —
and it begins within.

Yes — it's part of the principles of every religion,
a light we all carry.

Molly, aged 10

Peace doesn't mean you need a quiet place.

It means you can find peace within—
whether you're in noise or in silence.

Remember: everything starts with a thought.

If your thoughts are good,
they will lead to good actions.

If your thoughts are peaceful,
your actions will be peaceful too.

Start with your thoughts—
and spread peace to the city,
spread peace to the country,
spread peace to the nations,
spread peace to the world.

Dhruvya, aged 10

Peace is a gift —

use it wisely.

Peace calms fear —

spread it widely.

Peace is shareable —

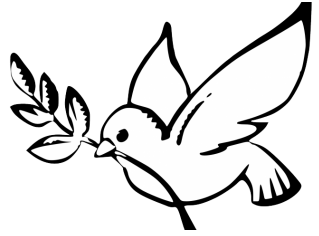
offer it to the whole world.

Peace is a blessing —
cherish it, don't take it for granted.

Peace starts within you.

Turn inward,
find your peace,
let it grow —
and it will spread
naturally,
like ripples
on a pond.

Amias, aged 10



FOR THE YOUNG AND NOT-SO-YOUNG!



Lord, help me find a
silver lining in every
cloud,
Calm amidst every
storm,
Peace among all
the danger and
violence in the
world.

Lord, help me not to only have peace, but to
share it.
Find common ground between different
communities.
Bring people together instead of pulling them
apart.

Lord, I pray for peace for every creature in our
world,
Great or small, weak or strong.
Less sorrow and less pain. Amen

Frances, 15, SVP Youth Group, Swansea

I offer this prayer to those who have sacrificed
their lives for righteousness and for others.
To those who work to protect animals and
plants.
To those who understand peace deeper than we
do and use it in their day-to-day lives to spread
peace and joy to others.

Saakshi, aged 10

Dear God,
In a world where children laugh and play
why is there such sadness?
If friendships can last forever and are enjoyed
every day, why do people fight and argue?
When the sun blooms and the sky is blue,
why is there battle and conflict?
In school where our ffrindiau share laughter all
day long,
why do others suffer?
Friends are like gift at your door,
kind and respectful and so much more.
So, instead of men fighting
why not think about children crying?
You gave us bywyd and

our world should be a place of peace.
So, help us find heddwch
and kindness in your world.
Help us to flourish and live under your love
and to treat people as we want to be treated.
As sunsets dazzle the evening sky
let us find heddwch and help us feel safe.
Peace is all we live for,
not to fight and start a war.
Can we laugh and have fun with heddwch in our
hearts
burning bright like the sun?
Mae cyfeillgarwch yn bwysig,
Helpwch ni i fod yn garedig a gwenu bob dydd.
Amen

Year 6, Church in Wales Primary School, Rhaeadr

Note: the Welsh word 'heddwch' means peace.

Who then can join the fragments together?
Is this the world that was once united
Where life was one piece?
Why then today do we have many pieces of life?
A life like scattered seeds on hard ground.

Yes, this broken world we are in today
The divided world we are in today
The broken homes we are in today
As Johnny Clegg the South African musician sang,
We are the scatterlings of Africa.

Is this what he meant?
Today the air is filled up with murmurings about
broken families,
Divided political parties, economic and
leadership squabbles.

Will these pieces come back to life?
That is the million-dollar question
Who then can join the
fragments together?
There is a time to scatter,
but now is the time to
gather.

Miriam, 15, Zimbabwe



DAY 6—HUNGER—AS A WEAPON OF WAR

Ya Allah (O Allah), Sustainer of every soul —
We raise our hands to You not in comfort, but in
desperation.
Our brothers and sisters in Gaza are being starved,
Ya Rabb (O Lord) — not by drought, not by nature,
but by cruelty.
Ya Razzaq (The Provider), You are the Giver of
every grain of food.
Ya Rahman (The Most Merciful), You are the One
who hears the cries of babies even when the world
is silent.
Ya Adl (The Most Just), You are Justice when justice
on Earth is gone.
O Allah, open the gates of Your mercy upon people
starving.
Deliver to them food, water, medicine — not just
through trucks and borders, but through the power
of Your unseen aid.
Let angels descend where governments fail.
Let sustenance rain where bombs have fallen.
Forgive us for every moment we stayed silent.
Forgive us for not doing more.
And empower us to become the means by which
their pain ends, not continues.
Let every starving child be nourished.
Let every mother who's boiling grass and water see
relief.
Let every family who is surviving on hope alone be
reminded: You have not forgotten them.
Replace their hunger with healing.
Replace their weakness with strength.
Replace this siege with victory.
And O Allah — hold those accountable who
weaponize hunger. Who blockade food. Who steal
sustenance.
Ameen (O Allah, answer our prayer).
Shaun King, North Star blog

Our God, the bread of life, whose heaven is in
feeding the creation,
your name now is unhallowed as people are dying
of famine and living in starvation,
your kingdom will only come when there is peace,
justice and equal food for all.
How on earth can your will be done as it is in
heaven,
when the aid is reaching so few?
Give the hungry their daily bread as we fast for all
who are starving.

Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into the temptation of either seeking
revenge or
staying neutral in the face of injustice,
But deliver us to share our bread and lives by
standing up for the cause of just peace.
Yours is the kingdom of justice, where wars and
conflict come to an end,
Yours is the power of love, where the hungry are
fed, and the wounded are healed
Yours is the glory, where heaven and earth meet as
righteousness and peace kiss each other, For now,
for here and for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Revd Raj Patta (adapted)

The great Spirit of Wisdom — Ahura Mazda — infuse
our every thought, word and deed, with hyperfocus
on the innocent lives in Gaza

On the hunger and pain and the lack of aid

On the chronic fear, sadness and anger in the
hearts of those in the region

On our privilege. Using our freewill for decisions
and acts that keep the spotlight on Gaza, to force
change that will save lives.

Benaifer Bhandari, Prayer based on Zoroastrian Principles

We extend our deepest solidarity with
Palestinians in Gaza, the West Bank, the
occupied territories, and those living in the
diaspora as they strive to survive this
genocidal onslaught by all means necessary.

Indigenous peoples best understand what it
means to be subjects of settler states that
deny, conceal, or attempt to erase their own
complicity in genocide and colonialism. That is
why we have formed intellectual communities
and professional organizations such as the
Native American and Indigenous Studies
Association (NAISA) — to study and resist
colonialism, in all its manifestations, and to
center the intellectual abundance and diverse
experiences of Indigenous peoples.

NAISA Council Statement on Palestine

DAY 7—PEACE ON OUR STREETS

Gracious God, we pray for peace in our communities. We commit to you all that work for peace and an end to tensions, and those who work to uphold law and justice.

We pray for an end to fear, for comfort and support to those who suffer, for calm in our streets and cities, that people may go about their lives in safety and peace.

Archbishop Rowan Williams

WAR is – in whatever its shape or form – is the ultimate in wickedness, madness, sin, injustice, ugliness...

PEACE then – without definition – must be the ultimate in Love, kindness, truth, compassion, justice...

WE PRAY that we may **daily choose PEACE and share it** in our lives, families, places of work, friends, group activities, streets, communities, the world...

We pray for an end to the violence and bloodshed, and ask you to bring a new dawn of peace across the Middle East. May there be no more hatred, rancor, strife or conquest. Let there be only love and a great peace among us.

Jewish

Blessed Goddess, who created the world, I pray to you to protect your daughter/your son, to travel with me on the road, and to always stay with me. And at the end, when the time comes for me to die, guide me through death in peace and without pain, then bring me safely to my next life. So let it be!

Romani Old Faith

Keep safe the vulnerable
in our towns and cities;
the no-fixed-abode,
rough sleeping,
cold and hungry,
enslaved and exploited,
depressed, suicidal,
the elderly, lonely
and almost invisible.
Bless those who help

with food and clothing,
shelter and counselling.
Increase our awareness
and concern for their needs,
these, your vulnerable children.

John Birch, Methodist

Vulnerable God, the Sacred Heart of Jesus was ripped open by violence.
We believe that in every body beats a sacred heart. We raise our voices in anguished prayer for victims of gun violence— hearts stopped, relationships severed, communities terrorized. We gather today to raise our hands in supplication for an end to gun violence. Fill our upraised arms with courage to strengthen our resolve to educate and advocate for an end to gun violence. May all bodies be cherished, know tenderness and pleasure and the justice of wholeness. Amen.

Nuns Against Gun Violence 2024

Although the people living across the ocean surrounding us, I believe, 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? I only earnestly wish that the wind will soon puff away all the clouds which are hanging over the tops of the mountains.

Shinto Prayer for Peace

At all times we should be aware of how inter-connected we are and of how each of us merits respect and care. Being mindful of the interwoven nature of all things, and of the brevity of each life, let us treat everyone as our friend.

A modern variation on a passage from the Metta Sutta, Buddhist

Happiness is the only good. The time to be happy is now. The place to be happy is here. The way to be happy is to make others so.

Robert Green Ingersoll (19th century Humanist)

If one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,' but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?

James 2:16, Christian

DAY 8—HUMAN RIGHTS

Father of all human beings who have their origin in you, it is your will to gather us together as one world family. By sharing the good things of the earth may we secure justice and equality for all, and create a human society built on love and peace.

Brahma Kumaris

A prayer for Human Rights Day

Lord God, we thank you that each of us is fearfully and wonderfully made in your image. Thank you for giving us freedom, dignity and purpose as human beings, and for the universal human rights we all share.

We remember all those who have been denied the full enjoyment of the right to freedom of religion or belief. We lift them up to you today. For those who have been displaced from their home, we ask for provision of food, medicine and a safe place of refuge.

For those who have been unjustly detained or imprisoned, we ask for their immediate and unconditional release.

For those experiencing violence, harassment or worse, we ask for your divine protection today.

For those living in fear, we ask for an outpouring of peace — peace that's beyond our understanding.

For those defending the rights of others, we thank you for their courage and expertise. Strengthen them to keep carrying out this vital work for justice.

For every person who is experiencing injustice because of their religion or belief, we ask that you meet all their needs today. Help us to keep standing with them all, until everyone is truly free to believe. Amen

Christians in Crisis

Bless all that is. Bless all who are.

Amen

Humanist

No one is my enemy, no one is a foreigner, with all I am at peace, God with us renders us incapable of hate and prejudice.

Guru Nanak

Be patterns, be examples in all countries, places, islands, nations, wherever you come, that your carriage and life may preach among all sorts of people, and to them; then you will come to walk cheerfully over the world, answering that of God in everyone.

Quaker Faith and Practice, Chapter 19, 19.32.

We pray that all will be provided with the security of a basic income, the opportunity of a free education, and the guarantee of mutual respect of faith, freedom of speech and equal access to justice and the law.

Joint Liturgical Group

If there is righteousness in the heart,
there will be beauty in the character.

If there is beauty in the character,
there will be harmony in the home.

If there is harmony in the home,
there will be order in the nation.

If there is order in the nation,
there will be peace in the world.

So let it be.

Scottish Blessing

A Māori Meditation on Human Rights

Breathe in.

Take in the life-giving breath of the world — a sacred gift passed down.

This breath of life is for you, for me, for all of us.
Breathe out.

Do not let fear or anger lead you.

The sacredness of every person — no matter who, no matter where — cannot be taken away.

Breathe in.

Think of your family, your community, your world.
Every person breathes the same — we share the same essence.

Breathe out.

Let love and care flow freely.

Human rights are not something given — they are born with us, part of our spirit, part of our lineage.

Sit in peace.

Plant this truth in your heart, so it may rise as just action, as a voice for truth.

For you, for them, for us all.

Maori

iona
community



WEEK
OF
PRAYER
FOR
WORLD
PEACE

In collaboration with Interfaith Alignment and the Iona Community, we offer a digital resource for individuals and communities worldwide during the Week of Prayer for World Peace.

Each day features a video prayer from a different tradition and different country, shared by spiritual leaders rooted in their practice.

While no single voice can represent the full depth of any tradition, these heartfelt offerings of song, word, and image invite us into a shared space of reflection and hope. We acknowledge the many traditions not represented this year and lift these prayers in honour of all who seek peace—from all faiths and none.

Access the daily prayers at www.interfaithalignment.org/wpwp

Or scan the QR code to open each day's offering (once opened, prayers remain available all year). To embed these digital prayers on your own website, email info@interfaithalignment.org

Our shared intention is to uplift peace through spiritual diversity—fostering empathy, inclusion, and awareness across traditions. In praying alongside one another, we enrich our understanding and deepen our connections as one human family.

May this Week of Prayer inspire peace within us, among us, and around the world. Let us walk together in hope, compassion, and shared purpose.



Week of Prayer For World Peace Leaflet 2025/2026

Again, this year the Committee is distributing the Prayer Resource free.

If you would like more copies to share, please either email wpwp2021@yahoo.com or write to

WPWP c/o 112 Whittlesey Rd. March, PE15 0AH with your:

Name—Address—Phone number—Number of copies you require

OR go the website **weekofprayerforworldpeace.co.uk** and order!

To donate and support the continuation of Week of Prayer for World Peace
please see above for contact details
or email keithsc_2000@yahoo.com

Week of Prayer for World Peace runs from 12-19 October 2025 and the whole year round!