

**Prayers  
for  
Peace and Justice  
in  
the World**



**L:** In the name of our God who shares  
divinity with us,

**All:** In the name of our God who shares  
humanity with us,

In the name of our God who  
Unsettles and inspires us,

Let us give praise and thanks! Alleluia!

**Hymn:** Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

**L:** Father God, on this day we stand in awe at the presence of your  
Risen Son among us.

**All:** Lord Jesus, you are our Life. You have called us to be your body  
for the salvation of the world. Come Holy Spirit full us, renew  
us, live in us. May your presence in us and among us become so  
strong as to overpower with love the forces of destruction and  
isolation. Disarm our fears, and let us rejoice in using our fits.  
Strengthens to act together, to remove our weapons, and to  
build for peace. With Jesus who has gone before us in total self-  
sacrifice unto death, we are ready to live His way of peace with  
Him, and in solidarity with all our brothers and sisters who are  
suffering in justice, we pray. Amen.

**L:** God of All, give us the courage to put our lives on the line in  
communicating life, truth and love to all people whenever we  
are.

**I:** Where there is injustice, may we find its cause and discover  
its cure.

**II:** Where there is selfishness, teach us how to love and how to  
encourage others to love and forgive.

**I:** Where there is poverty, help us to share the wealth that has  
come from your hand.

**II:** Where there is war and violence, injustice and hatred, may we be peacemakers that lead persons to your peace.

**All:** Help us, O God, to become what you have destined and empowered us to become.

**I:** Where there is darkness, may we become the rays of your sun that banish the gloom of lonely lives.

**II:** Where there is drought, let us be like fresh flowers that turn barren deserts into green meadows.

**I:** Where there is ugliness and confusion enable us to portray the beauty and order of your will and purposes.

**All:** Forbid, O God, that we be deaf to the cries of the poor and indifferent to those who have needs. May we assist those who are oppressed and help to bear the burdens of those who suffer. May we hear your voice of concern and feel your loving touch through your people who are in this world to witness and share your message to all.

**Sing:** Grant to us, O Lord, a heart renewed.  
Recreate in us your own Spirit, Lord.

**L:** O Lord, you have favored your land; let us see your faithfulness and give us your saving help.

**I:** O Lord, let us hear what you would speak to us. Yours is a voice that speaks of peace for your people, for all your faithful and for those who turn to you in their hearts.

**II:** Surely your salvation is near for those who fear you; that your glory will dwell in our land.

**I:** Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; justice and peace will embrace.

**I:** O Lord, you will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

**II:** Justice will go before you and peace shall follow in your footsteps.

**All:** Glory to God our Creator, to Christ the Word and to the Holy Spirit. As it was...

**Sing:** Grant to us, O Lord...

**L:** We do believe, O God, that you hear the cries of your people. Help our unbelief. Give us the power to confront the various evils in our world. Give us the courage to overcome the injustice, to stem the violence and to bring forth an irresistible love which can sweep away the evils that stalk our world daily. We ask this power in Jesus name.

**All:** Amen.

**L:** Moses, by God's power, led the Israelites out of Egypt, even though Pharaoh hardened his heart nine times. Moses still led the Chosen People to the promised land.

**All:** We pray for the fullness of the Gifts of Your Spirit, O Jesus.

**L:** Judith, women of Israel, when the surrounding Syrian army crushed any hope in Israel, slew the general Holofernes and brought liberation to God's people.

**All:** We pray for the fullness of the Gifts of Your Spirit, O Jesus.

**Sing:** Grant to us, O Lord...

**L:** Mary, Comforter of the afflicted, you proclaimed that the mighty will be cast down and the lowly rose up. You stood in solidarity with Jesus at the Cross. You stood with him when His Resurrection broke the power of evil and death.

**All:** We pray for the fullness of the Gifts of Your Spirit, O Jesus.

**L:** Jesus Christ, Son of God, you call us to freedom. You smashed the reign of Satan and won for us eternal life. You promised to walk with us and to empower us to shatter the forces of

oppression with a love which no violence or hatred can withstand. Jesus, you are our Liberator and we pray with you.

**All:** We pray for the fullness of the Gifts of Your Spirit, O Jesus.

**L:** Jesus, our brother and Lord,

**All:** You came into our darkness to drive away our fears of death.

You told us to “fear not”, for you would be with us. You told us we are precious, beyond the sparrows of the air and the lilies of the field.

You spoke of our power to love one another and called us to love each other as you love us.

Walk with our sisters and brothers as they struggle to move from darkness to light, from fear and repression to freedom.

Let us be with them in solidarity so that the light of their hopes may never be quenched, but that they may live on in us, united in spirit.

We ask this of you, Jesus, our Savior living and reigning forever. Today let us stand in unity with those who are searching for freedom – something worth living for, even worth dying for, even in the face of imprisonment.

**All:** Let the light of Christ live on in us.

**L:** We stand today with those who face the fears of torture and death, whose families are broken by those who are missing because they have chosen to confront the forces of evil...

**All:** Let the light of Christ live on in us.

**L:** We stand today with those who face the fears of torture and death, whose families are broken by those who are missing because they have chosen to confront the forces of evil...

**All:** Let the light of Christ live on in us.

**L:** We stand with those discriminated against, with children who have had to learn the pain of separation because of who they are...

**All:** Let the light of Christ live on in us.

**L:** We stand with all those who are prepared to risk their lives for the proclamation of truth and justice...

**All:** Let the light of Christ live on in us.

**L:** Let us stand with those who speak out boldly against oppression and power, never allowing the voice of justice to be stilled...

**All:** Let the light of Christ live on in us.

**L:** Let us live our lives in solidarity with the poor of the world and open our hearts to those who do not yet realize God's love for them...

**All:** Let the light of Christ live on in us.

**L:** Let us pray with faith in God and in the bloodshed by so many martyrs, in the words of Archbishop Romero: "The cry of liberation is a cry that reached up to God and one that nothing or no one can stop. Over these ruins, the glory of the Lord will shine."

With Mary, Our Blessed Mother we pray:

**I:** Pilgrim sister of the Poor, Prophetess of the poor made free, Mother of the entire world. Mother of all in this world that is one because you are the Mother of God made human!

**II:** With all those who believe in Christ, and with all those who in any way seek His Kingdom, we call on you, our Mother, to talk to Him for all of us.

**I:** Ask Jesus who became poor to share with us the riches of His love, so that His church may strip herself from all other riches.

**II:** Ask Jesus who died upon the cross to save us, that we, his followers, might learn to live and die to free our sisters and brothers.

**I:** Ask Jesus that we be devoured by the thirst and hunger for that justice which saves us. Ask Him, who now risen, lives with the Father, to send us the joyous power of His Spirit, that we may learn to overcome our selfishness and fear.

**II:** Country mother, working mother, born in a colony, teach us to ponder sincerely the Gospel of Jesus, and translate it into life with all its consequences, with the spirit of the Beatitudes, and in the total risk of Love that knows how to give one's life to those we love.

**All:** We ask this through Jesus Christ, you Son and our Brother.  
Amen.

**L:** May Almighty God bless us,  
God who created us,  
Jesus who saves us,  
And the Spirit who sets us free.

**All:** Forever and ever. Amen.