

Loving God,

We pray for ourselves:

that we may be the body of Christ, saying “No” to war and “Yes” to peace;  
that we may be followers of the Prince of Peace, learning to love our enemies;  
that we may be faithful disciples, bringing good news to the poor and release to the captive;  
that we may be united by Christ’s cross, patient and passionate, tender and tenacious.

We pray for others:

for the people of Iraq, whose lives and dreams are broken daily;  
for the victims of torture and abuse, and their perpetrators, whose bodies, hearts, minds and souls are being scarred forever;  
for soldiers and their families, torn apart by war, sacrificing more than many of us can understand;  
for communities suffering from poverty and violence, fear and division;  
may they each know that they are held in your love and our prayers.

We pray for your world:

that nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
that human shall not lift up spear against human,  
and that no one shall study war, or greed, or prejudice.

We pray for peace.

Make us your peacemakers,  
that we may learn in our hearts and words and actions,  
in our votes and policies and halls of governance,  
to overcome hatred with love, evil with good, and violence with peace.

We pray for peace in the name of the One who offers us the peace of Christ,

AMEN.



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for communities suffering from poverty and violence;  
may they know that they are held in your love and our prayers.

We pray for the world:

that nation shall never again lift up sword against nation,  
and human shall never again lift up spear against human,  
and no one shall ever again study war, or greed, or prejudice.

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Make us your peacemakers  
that we may learn to overcome  
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A Blessing

Go out in peace.

Have courage.

Hold on to what is good.

Render to no one evil for evil.

Strengthen the fainthearted.

Support the weak.

Heal the suffering.

Honor all people.

Love and serve our God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

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