

Selection of Prayers



Opening Prayer:

God of peace, we thank you for faithfulness and your gift of true peace – not as the world gives, but the Peace of Christ.

May we fully adopt this peace in our hearts as we seek true peace in places of tension and conflict;

That you would call and enable us to support and empower others who are hungry because of conflict and strife, that you would fill tables with nutritious food, so that everyone has enough to eat, and that you would bring your true peace to all;

That no one would suffer or go hungry.

Amen

Prayer for peace to prevail and hunger to be eradicated

Gracious and loving God, we pray for a world where peace prevails, where hunger is eradicated and where the rights of all are respected. May your boundless love bring strength to all. May justice be the foundation of our societies and compassion the guiding principle of our actions. Amen.

Written and translated from Tumbuka by Ekwendeni Hospital AIDS Programme, a PWS&D partner in Malawi, from PWS&D's resource: Unceasing Prayer. Shared with permission.

Prayer of calling and comfort

God of all comfort, bring peace to our hearts, Guide our hands to be givers and our feet to walk where you lead.

Open our eyes to see need close by and far away. Sharpen our ears to hear spoken and unspoken words of despair.

Stir our hearts to be thoroughways of your peace and love to all whom our senses bring close.

Amen.

Written by Patricia Grainger, PWS&D Champion at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Kars, Ont, from PWS&D's resource: Unceasing Prayer. Shared with permission.

Jesus, the Bread of Life, from John 6

Jesus, you said, "The bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." And you then declared, "I am the Bread of Life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."¹

Help us, Lord, to always seek this bread, and be open to receive it, and to share it with others. Help us, Lord, especially in times of conflict and strife, so that all can receive enough bread to eat, and your bread of life.

Amen

¹ John 6:33-35, from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV).



Prayer of thanksgiving, confession and intercession

God of the harvest,

You created a world that has enough. Yet too many live with less than enough. And so, we ask, not only for provision, but for transformation.

On this World Food Day, we pray with farmers in South Sudan facing failed rains, with mothers in El Salvador skipping meals for their children, and with families in Gaza displaced by conflict and unable to afford food.

We give thanks for the work of Canadian Foodgrains Bank and for all global partners who sow resiliency alongside the poor. We see you, God, in seed banks in India, in soil restoration training in the DR Congo, and in advocacy meetings in Ottawa, where your justice takes root.

In Matthew 25, you remind us that to feed the hungry is to meet you. May our faith be made visible in shared harvests, generous giving, and courageous advocacy.

Forgive us when we are silent in the face of injustice. Stir your Church to live differently by coming to the table with gratitude, committing to waste less, and to share more.

Jesus, Bread of Life, feed us with compassion. Nourish your world with justice. And may every meal become a sign of your Kingdom breaking in.

Amen.

Written by Catherine Cole, Canadian Baptist Ministries.
Shared with permission.



Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace – Prayer of St Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy;
O Divine Master,
Grant that I may not so much seek
To be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Commonly attributed to St. Francis of Assisi, first published in the French Magazine, La Clochette, 1912.

Closing prayer

Creator God,
You love all that you have made.
You have filled our hearts with your love and desire that no one would go hungry, that all may live in peace with everything they need.
Continue to fill us with your passion and compassion for others, to seek true and just peace in all circumstances, in supporting others, in working for justice, and in feeding the hungry.
Guide us, we pray.
Amen

