

## SHALOM Prayers for Peace ~ For the Whole World

### YOUTH PRAYER FOR PEACE

Jesus, help us see that You have  
called us to be like You.  
Instruments of forgiving love  
You do not take us out of the world,  
But, You give us courage to live in the world.  
Melt us, mold us, fill us,  
Use us to make peace!

### CHILD PEACE PRAYER

God, Creator of the world,  
Please help us to love one another.  
Make nations friendly with other nations.  
Make all of us love one another  
Like brothers.  
Help us to do our part  
To bring peace in the world  
And happiness to all people.

### ARCH BISHOP DESMOND TUTU'S PRAYER FOR PEACE

O God, All holy one,  
You are our Mother and our Father  
And we are Your children.  
Open our eyes and our hearts  
So that we may be able to discern Your work  
In the universe,  
And be able to see Your features  
in every one of Your children.

May we learn that there are many paths,  
But all lead to You.  
Help us to know that You have created us  
Members of the same family  
Your family, the human family.

Help us to beat our swords into plowshares  
And our spears into pruning hooks  
So that we may live in peace and harmony,  
Wiping away the tears from the eyes of those  
Who are less fortunate than ourselves.  
And may we know war no more,  
As we strive to be what You want us to be:  
Your children.

### IRISH PRAYER OF PEACE

Deep peace of the running wave to you  
Deep peace of the flowing air to you  
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you  
Deep peace of the shining stars to you  
Deep peace of the watching shepherds to you  
Deep peace of the Son of Peace to you

### Excerpts from "Birth Project" *by Judy Chicago*

And then all that has divided us will merge.  
Compassion will be wedded to power.  
Softness will come to a world that is harsh and unkind.  
Both men and women will be strong  
And no person will be subject to another's will.  
And then all will live in harmony with each other and the earth  
And everywhere will be Eden once again.

## **EARTH PEACE PRAYER**

Creator God, we are women and men of the millennium  
A voice for the Spirit's unfolding energy.  
We are change.  
We are a community willing to grow  
In peace, power and love.  
Teach us that giving is the act of receiving,  
That healing ourselves...heals our world.  
That we are interconnected;  
Part of ancestors and children to come,  
Part of the soil, earth and stars.  
Let us live in peace!

## **St. Hilda Community of England Peace Prayer**

Brothers and sisters, be at peace.  
We meet together to share this meal.  
  
May it express our love for one another,  
our commitment to each other  
and point us beyond ourselves  
to the needs of the world.  
  
God, make peace within us.  
Let us claim it.  
  
God, make peace between us.  
Let us share it.

## **Peace Prayer Adapted from the Upanishads**

Lead me from death to life  
From falsehood to truth  
Lead me from despair to hope  
From fear to trust  
Lead me from hate to love  
From war to peace  
Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe.

## **Prayer for International Understanding**

*(Adapted from Prayer for Jewish Worship)*  
God of Peace, be with those  
who guide the destinies of the world,  
so that an end may come to boasting and arrogance.  
Give them the courage to speak the truth  
and the humility to listen.  
Help us to put the good of others  
before our own wants and desires  
So that we may be freed from the burden of fear,  
the weight of suspicion,  
And may come to trust each other  
and live in peace.

## **COMMUNITY PEACE PRAYER**

O God of Wonder.  
In the quiet, dark of this time of waiting for peace,  
Teach us Your ways.  
Lead our dull hearts to delight.  
Help us recapture our sense of wonder  
as You teach us to learn from children,  
the children we once were and must again become.  
Now we wait in trust and joyful expectation  
of Your unexpected ways.

## **ADVENT PEACE PRAYER**

In this Advent season of diminishing light  
and heightened anticipation,

help us, God, to be underwhelmed  
by the glitz and glitter  
and overwhelmed by Your love and compassion.  
Deafen our ears to the din and the clatter  
and turn us inward to silence and reverence.  
Open our hearts, oh God,  
to the true Christmas gift...  
the true Christmas promise...  
The Christ child ... who is Peace on Earth!

### **Peace Prayer of Waiting**

Oh God of Peace who whispers to us;  
"Be My loving presence upon the earth,"  
Help us **be peace** to one another.  
And as we look into the heart of those we meet,  
let us wrap each other in love and peace without condition,  
holding one another, as You hold us in joy.

### **Thoughts of Peace**

*-Martin Luther King Jr.*

Like the ever-flowing waters of the river,  
Life has its moments of drought and its moments of flood.  
But, if we hold on, we will discover that God walks with us,  
And that God is able to lift us from the fatigue of despair  
To the buoyancy of hope; and transform dark and desolate valleys  
Into sunlit paths of inner peace.

### **Peace Prayer from *El Via Crucis Economico***

O God, we ask forgiveness for our failure  
to raise our voices as we should.  
Holy Spirit, anoint us as faithful advocates.  
We pray for governments  
to represent the demands of ordinary people,  
especially those who are silenced  
because of poverty or gender.  
We pray that the cries of the voiceless may be heard  
and that all people will declare that the word of God—  
not laws or economics—shall govern humanity.  
We pray for the healing of our broken relationships.

### **Peace Prayer of the Fellowship of Reconciliation**

Spirit of God, we long to mend the broken circle,  
to heal the fractures in the world around us  
and within our own souls.  
We long to see as reality a world pulsing with justice and truth.  
A society where everyone sits down at the great banquet  
and eats until filled.  
Spirit of God, we recommit ourselves  
to building the Beloved Community,  
as brothers and sisters working together.

### **Philippine Peace Prayer**

May God continue to create a world of equality and justice,  
where all of creation enjoys life at its fullest;  
where there is neither the ruler and the ruled;  
nor the powerful and powerless  
nor the dominant and dominated  
but where all experience grace and live happily,  
knowing that it is God, the Giver of life, who cares for all of us.

### **A Prayer for Peace**

Oh God, Creator, Parent and Sanctifier of all that is,  
Our humble prayer is for Your spirit to inspire our lives,  
for Your love to fill our hearts, for Your grace to overflow

So that all who see us will say,  
"Here is Peace!" "Here is Peace!"  
May we be this peace in our families and in our world.

### **6th Century Chinese Prayer for Peace**

If there is to be peace in the word, 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 neighbors.  
If there is to be peace between neighbors,  
there must be peace in the home.  
If there is to be peace in the home, there must be peace in the heart.  
Let us be bearers of peace!

### **Baha'i Prayer for Peace**

Be generous with your riches, and thankful in times of trouble.  
Be fair in your judgment, and careful in your speech.  
Be a lamp to those who walk in darkness, and a home to the stranger.  
Be eyes to the blind, and a guiding light to the feet of the stumbling.  
Be a breath of life to the body of humankind,  
a dew to the soil of the human heart,  
and a fruit upon the tree of humility.

### **Buddhist Prayer for Peace**

May all beings everywhere plagued with sufferings of body and mind  
quickly be freed from their illnesses. May those frightened cease to be afraid, and may those bound be free. May the powerless find power, and may  
people think of befriending one another. May those who find themselves in trackless, fearful wildernesses—the children, the aged, the unprotected—be  
guarded by beneficent celestials, and may they swiftly attain enlightenment.

### **Christian Prayer for Peace**

Blessed are the Peacemakers,  
for they shall be known as the Children of God.  
But I say to you that hear, love your enemies,  
do good to those who hate you,  
bless those who curse you,  
pray for those who abuse you.  
To those who strike you on the cheek, offer the other also,  
and from those who take away your cloak,  
do not withhold your coat as well.  
Give to everyone who begs from you,  
and of those who take away your goods, do not ask them again.  
And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

### **Hindu Prayer for Peace**

Oh God, lead us from the unreal to the Real.  
Oh God, lead us from darkness to light.  
Oh God, lead us from death to immortality.  
Shanti, Shanti, Shanti unto all.  
Oh Lord God almighty, may there be peace in celestial regions.  
May there be peace on earth.  
May the waters be appeasing.  
May herbs be wholesome, and may trees and plants bring peace to all.  
May all beneficent beings bring peace to us.  
May thy Vedic Law propagate peace all through the world.  
May all things be a source of peace to us.  
And may thy peace itself, bestow peace on all,  
and may that peace come to me also.

### **Jewish Prayer for Peace**

Come let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,  
that we may walk the paths of the Most High.  
And we shall beat our swords into ploughshares,  
and our spears into pruning hooks.  
Nation shall not lift up sword against nation—

neither shall they learn war any more.  
And none shall be afraid,  
for the mouth of the Lord of Hosts has spoken.

### **Muslim Prayer for Peace**

In the name of Allah, the Loving, the Merciful.  
Praise be to the Lord of the Universe,  
who has created us and made us into tribes and nations,  
that we may know each other, not that we may despise each other.  
If the enemy moves toward peace, move yourself also toward peace,  
and trust in God, for the Lord is the one that hears and knows all things.  
And the servants of God,  
Most Gracious are those who walk on the Earth in humility,  
and when we address one another, we say "PEACE."

### **Native African Prayer for Peace**

Almighty God, the Great Thumb we must use to tie any knot;  
the Roaring Thunder that splits mighty trees:  
the all-seeing Lord up on high who sees even the footprints  
of an antelope on a rockmass here on Earth  
You are the one who does not hesitate to respond to our call.  
You are the cornerstone of peace.

### **Native American Prayer for Peace**

O Great Spirit of our Ancestors, I raise my pipe to you.  
To your messengers the four winds,  
and to Mother Earth who provides for your children.  
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.  
Let us learn to share all the good things you provide for us on this Earth.

### **Shinto Prayer for Peace**

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.

### **Prayer for Peace** *(from Ghandi)*

I offer you peace; I offer you love;  
I offer you friendship; I see your beauty.  
I hear your needs; I feel your feelings.  
My wisdom flows from the Highest Source.  
I bow to that Source within you.  
Let us work together for unity and love.

### **POPOL VUH** *(Guatamalan Peace Prayer)*

Que todos se levanten, Que ni otro se quede  
Astras de lost demas.  
Let them all rise together,  
Let no one be left behind.

### **PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI**

Lord make us Instruments of your peace  
Where there is hatred let us 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 Spirit,  
Grant that we 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 giving that we receive  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned  
It is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

## **Native American Prayer for Peace**

*(Adapted from the Upanishads by Satish Kumar.)*

O Great Spirit of our Ancestors,  
I raise my pipe to you.  
To your messengers, the four winds, and to Mother Earth  
who provides for your children.  
Give us the wisdom to teach others  
to love, to respect, and to be kind to each other  
so that we may grow with peace in mind.  
Let us learn to share all good things that You provide for us on this Earth.  
Lead us from death to life, from lies 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.

## **A PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE** *(Prayer for World Peace, 1978)*

Lord, we pray for the power to be gentle;  
the strength to be forgiving; the patience to be understanding;  
and the endurance to accept the consequences  
of holding to what we believe to be right.  
May we put our trust in the power of good  
to overcome evil  
and the power of love to overcome hatred.  
We pray for the vision to see  
and the faith to believe in a world free from violence,  
a new world where fear shall no longer lead us  
to commit injustice, nor selfishness make us bring suffering to others.  
Help us to devote our whole life and thought and energy  
to the task of making peace,  
praying always for the inspiration and the power  
to fulfill the destiny for which all people were created

## **UNITY PEACE PRAYER**

Spirit of God, we long to mend the broken circle  
To heal the brokenness in the world around us and within our own souls  
To learn from one another the ways of being fully alive  
Spirit of God, we long to see the reality of  
A world pulsing with justice and truth;  
A society where everyone sits down at the great Banquet Table  
and eats until filled.  
Spirit of God, we recommit ourselves  
To building the Beloved Community  
As brothers and sisters working together