

Famine at Harvest:

Gaza Crisis Prayer Resource

**“Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you.
You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.”**

Jeremiah 29:12-13



Watching the lives of Israelis and Palestinians be shaped by collective loss, trauma and fear can leave us feeling helpless. But, we are a people of prayer and we have a God who hears us when we cry out to him, so we have created this resource to help you and your church pray for a just peace during the current crisis in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

Prayer of Approach

God of all justice and peace, we cry out to you in the midst of the pain and trauma of violence and fear which prevails in the Holy Land.

Be with those who need you in these days of suffering; we pray for people of all faiths - Jews, Muslims and Christians and for all people of the land.

While we pray to you, O Lord, for an end to violence and the establishment of peace, we also call for you to bring justice and equity to the peoples.

Guide us into your kingdom, where all people are treated with dignity and honour as your children, for to all of us you are our Heavenly Father.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

Prayer by The Very Revd Canon Richard Sewell, Dean of St George's College Jerusalem.

Prayer for Peace

Lord, hear us as we pray for peace.

We pray that this crisis will end now, without further loss of life. We pray for the injured, the suffering and for those who mourn their loved ones. We pray for all people who have been displaced, those who have lost their homes and have nowhere safe to go. We pray for all those in danger at this moment.

Lord, hear us as we pray for peace.

We pray for the powerful, the decision-makers, who can choose to act for peace. May they follow the paths of justice, mercy and compassion. We pray for recognition of the value of human life. We remember that we are all made in the image of God.

Prayer for Peace continued...

Lord, hear us as we pray for peace.

We pray for those who are most vulnerable. We remember your call, Lord, to help the bereaved, the stranger, the orphan. We pray for medical staff and humanitarian workers who continue to serve others, even when they are themselves deeply affected by this conflict. We pray especially for children caught up in the violence, that they may know safety.

God of peace and justice, hear our prayers. Amen.

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We are facing an unbearable situation. We are struggling to keep our strength and hope. We are waiting now to see what the world is going to do for people in Gaza. We feel frustrated and we feel alone. There are continuous airstrikes and destruction everywhere. There are so many displaced people - hundreds of thousands.

Prayer of Intercession

May it not be long, Lord, before the world we pray for and the one we inhabit are one.

May it not be long before the violence ends. Be near to all of those who are suffering. May they know your peace.

May it not be long, before the captives are set free and those who have nowhere safe to go find sanctuary. May they know your protection.

May it not be long before the hungry are feed and the sick are seen and healed. May they know your provision.

May it not be long before those working for peace succeed. And those providing care for the injured, the malnourished and traumatised can do so without threat. May they know your courage

May it not be long before those with power see the paths of justice, mercy and peace. May they know your wisdom and beware your wrath.

May it not be long, Lord.

And to enable that day to come soon, raise up for us prophets who will give us new sight for better seeing. Raise up for us prophets who will spell out that God has no favourite race nor heaven a favoured language.

And if you will not raise up for us prophets then raise up in us that holy restlessness. To listen endlessly, to speak out consistently, and to work tirelessly for your will to be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

Amen

Closing Prayer

When races fight

Peace be amongst us

When neighbours argue

Peace be amongst us

When nations disagree

Peace be amongst us

Where people struggle for justice

Let justice prevail

Where Christ's disciples follow

Let peace be our way

In Jesus' name we pray,

Amen.

