



Prayers

for a

Just Peace

**Then you will call
upon me and come
and pray to me,
and I will hear you.**

Jeremiah 29:12

christian
aid

80
years

Watching the suffering in Gaza 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 that a just and lasting peace will bring an end to the brutal conflict.



Prayer of Approach

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

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.**

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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 so many displaced people - hundreds of thousands...and destruction everywhere.

Prayer for Peace



Lord, hear us as we pray for lasting peace.

We thank you for progress towards peace and pray that this crisis will finally end, 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 those returning now to what is left.

Lord, hear us as we pray for a just peace.

We pray for the powerful decision-makers who are acting 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.

Lord, hear us as we pray for permanent 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 whose lives have been devastated by violence, that they may know safety.

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

Reflection

He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth.
He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

Psalms 46:9-10

Psalms 46 talks about waters roaring and mountains quaking, about the noise of violence and war. But it ends with God saying, 'Be still and know that I am God'.

- Invite people to close their eyes as they listen to Psalms 46 being read aloud.
- Begin to pray silently for stillness and for peace in Gaza. Reflect on how the noises of war are slowly falling silent as God makes peace.
- Finish the time of reflection by giving thanks that God will be exalted above all things.

Prayer of Intercession

by Michael Briggs, Church and
Community Officer, Christian Aid Ireland

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

This prayer can be used in full or in part in response to conflicts and injustice around the world.

Christian Aid Ireland is committed to inspiring and encouraging churches and individuals to uphold our global neighbours in prayer. Join our community of prayer and find out more about our work in Gaza and other nations by visiting **caid.ie/gaza-pray**



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