



From 11th to 18th October 2020

## THE INTERNATIONAL PRAYER FOR PEACE

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

# Shared Faith Worship

“Where people are praying for peace the cause of peace is strengthened by their very act of prayer, for they are themselves becoming immersed in the spirit of peace.” wrote George Macleod, founder of the Iona Community. He was one of a number of faith leaders who in 1974 signed ‘A Call to Prayer for World Peace’. They wrote ‘Believing that God is calling us to pray with new purpose and deeper understanding for peace and justice among all people, we invite our fellow believers of all faiths to join in a WEEK OF PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE’.

The call went on to say “Patience will need to be an essential feature of this united act of prayer so that we may all not only learn from the past errors but also be open to fresh insights which the unprecedented modern situation demands”. Sadly, these words are still pertinent today, in the third decade of the 21 st century.

The Prayer and Study leaflet for individual and corporate use during the Week has remained a key feature of WPWP. It is presented here for use during the Week and throughout the year.

We are convinced that there is only one humanity praying to one supreme consciousness, with whatever different opinions we may have on what that may be. We recognise that interfaith partnership does not in itself imply agreement. WPWP invites all people of all faiths and none to join in praying for peace.

The things we agree on are many and precious. What we disagree on is precious too. We stand alongside all who pray for peace with us as partners and friends.

***The Week of Prayer for World Peace 2020 is 11<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> October. Please let us know how you observe the Week of Prayer for World Peace via [weekofprayerforworldpeace.co.uk](http://weekofprayerforworldpeace.co.uk)***

## An interfaith gathering of Prayers and Peace

An annual gathering has been part of WPWP, however, this year will be 'at a distance' on the afternoon of Sunday 11th October 2020 at 3:30-4:30 (BST). Please check the website nearer the date. We will be using the internet to stream any gathering so people can join us from afar. If you are interested to know more please contact KeithScott [keithsc\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:keithsc_2000@yahoo.com)

## Would you like to support the Week of Prayer for World Peace to help us continue our work?

If so, please make a donation:-

A/C Name: The Week of Prayer for World Peace

Bank: Lloyds, Bexleyheath

Sort Code: 30-90-76 Account Number: 00049837

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Please email us at: [keithsc\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:keithsc_2000@yahoo.com) to let us know



# DAY ONE

## *Peace Education*

***Let us pray for all involved in learning about and teaching peace***

A more peaceful world and a more peaceful century require that we rely not on weapons but on developing a widespread inner peace.

**Dalai Lama**

At this time, perhaps more than ever before, there is an urgent need to celebrate diversity and embrace unity. Education is the key to lasting peace.

**World Peace Flame Foundation, Peace in Your Hands Project**

May we do more than pray  
May we live into this hope by teaching

ourselves and our children  
How to live in peace with one another  
How to build peace with one another  
How to teach peace to others  
How to live Your peace in the world.

**Adapted by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell  
rev-o-lution.org**

To reach peace, teach peace.

**Pope John Paul II**

Be my might, O Spirit of light. I grope in the dark; scatter my darkness.

**Zoroastrian**



# DAY TWO

## *Non-Violence*

***Let us pray for all those who work to promote non-violent ways to resolve conflict.***

Bring into God's light those emotions, attitudes and prejudices in yourself which lie at the root of destructive conflict, acknowledging your need for forgiveness and grace. In what ways are you involved in the work of reconciliation between individuals, groups and nations?

**Quaker Advices and Queries**

Peace, the gift within:

It is an inner sense that can come in moments of silent gratitude.

It is a way of being very quiet and looking at things so that you can understand them.

You radiate with the realisation that peaceful thoughts create a peaceful world.

With vibrations of peace and happiness you spread serenity and comfort all around.

**Dadi Janki, Brahma Kumaris**

"...May the long shadows of war and conflict

that hover above us be replaced by blue skies of peace and prosperity. I pray for an end to the frustrations and deprivation that have plagued the lives of countless people and have fuelled devastating wars and grievances across the world...I pray that we show tolerance of each other's beliefs and customs and value the diversity within our societies. I pray that we come to see the best in humanity and use each other's strengths and skills to build a better world for our children and to cultivate lasting peace in society."

**His Holiness Mirza Masroor Ahmad,  
Ahmadiyya Muslim Community**

Everyone should carefully observe which way his heart draws him, and then choose that way with all his strength.

**Hasidic Proverb**



# DAY THREE

*United Nations*

***Let us give thanks for the work of 75 years of the United Nations***

We give thanks for the work of the United Nations and for our sisters and brothers whom you have called to serve within that system. We are thankful that you call women and men from every land. We honour their work, their gifts, and their sacrifice. We pray for those who have given their lives in service, for their families and communities who grieve such loss.

**UNA, Northern Ireland**

More than ever before in human history, we share a common destiny. We can master it only if we face it together. And that, my friends, is why we have the United Nations.

**Kofi Annan**

The well-being of humanity, its peace and security, are unattainable unless and until

its unity is firmly established.

**Baha'u'llah, Baha'i**

We pray that you imbue the world leaders at the United Nations with patience and guidance as they seek peaceful resolutions to today's challenges. We often think in ways that divide us, emphasizing our differences. Remind us all that we are a part of a world community, one family regardless of nationality, culture, language or gender, and we are all touched by your grace.

Grant us the courage to transform our local communities, caring for the poor and standing up for the oppressed, so they may be peaceful, loving examples of your compassion. May the world that we shape be a reflection of your kingdom.

**Presbyterian Church, USA**



# DAY FOUR

*Remember the end of World War 2*

***We pray for all those who have worked for peace during the last 75 years***

Protect our remembrance of this anniversary from the infection of hate that we may live free from fear and resentment. Lead us out of the shadow of all those deaths onto paths of reconciliation. In a world that has sadly not seen real peace in these 75 years let us work together to bring to fruition the hopes of those in 1945.

**Inspired by lines from Anglo-Saxon poem, The Battle of Maldon, recording C10th battle in Essex where Saxon and Viking soldiers died in great numbers**

I believe in the sun  
Even when it is not shining  
I believe in love

Even when I do not feel it

I believe in God

Even when he is silent.

**From cellar walls, Germany where Jews were hidden**

When our hearts are saddened, grieving or in pain,

By Your touch You call us back to life again;  
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:

Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green

**John Macleod Campbell Cru, theologian/poet**



# DAY FIVE

## *The Coronavirus Pandemic*

***Help us to work together with courage***

There are some amongst us who are going through very distressing, painful and worrying times.  
We stand alongside them now, holding them in The Light and ask for them comfort, reassurance, healing and peace of mind.  
Light of the World protect us and shine in our darkness.

**Pamela Hutchison Collins, Quaker,  
Member of Friends Fellowship of Light**

We remember all those affected by the Coronavirus pandemic – those who have lost loved ones, those who have fallen sick themselves and all those whose lives have been changed for ever.  
We give thanks for those dedicated to helping them in a myriad different ways, whose selfless actions have helped to ease

the suffering of others and made a difference.  
We pray that the spirit of caring will remain with us and that we will be better people,  
More able to see each other as friends and neighbours across the globe.

**Susan Gale, WPWP Committee Member**

However difficult matters are at present, and however close to the limits of their endurance some sections of societies are brought, humanity will ultimately pass through this ordeal, and it will emerge on the other side with greater insight and with a deeper appreciation of its inherent oneness and interdependence.

**Letter written by the Universal House of Justice to the Bahá'ís of the World, Naw-Rúz 2020 / 177 BE**



# DAY SIX

## *Environment and Security*

***We pray for the willingness and the ability to act to protect our environment.***

The worshippers of the All-Merciful are they who tread gently upon the earth, and when the ignorant address them, they reply, "Peace!"

**Qur'an 25:63**

How can we have peace when the world is being flooded with weapons? Arms are being sold throughout the developed and developing world. This trade takes resources from our environment and the struggle to tackle climate change. Their use causes people to flee their homes, and

further adds to the stresses on the environment. We pray that governments will look at other ways to maintain security

**ANON**

Rest for the ravaged earth, oceans and streams,  
Plundered and poisoned,  
Our future, our dreams,  
Lord, end our madness, carelessness, greed,  
Make us content with the things that we need.

**Graham Kendrick**



## DAY SEVEN

### *Leadership for Reconciliation*

***We pray for integrity and wisdom in our leaders***

Let Us Be United  
 Let us be united;  
 Let us speak in harmony;  
 Let our minds apprehend alike.  
 Common be our prayer,  
 Common be the end of our assembly;  
 Common be our resolution;  
 Common be our deliberations.  
 Alike be our feelings;  
 Unified be our hearts;  
 Common be our intentions;  
 Perfect be our unity.

#### **Rig Veda, Hindu prayer**

I pray that we show tolerance of each other's beliefs and customs and value the diversity within our societies. I pray that we come to see the best in humanity and use

each other's strengths and skills to build a better world for our children and to cultivate lasting peace in society.

#### **His Holiness Mirza Masroor Ahmad. Ahmaddiyah**

May I become at all times both now and forever  
 A protector for those without protection,  
 A guide for those who have lost their way,  
 A ship for those with oceans to cross  
 A bridge for those with rivers to cross,  
 A sanctuary for those in danger,  
 A lamp for those without light,  
 A place of refuge for those who lack shelter  
 And a servant to all in need.  
**A Buddhist Prayer of Peace**



## DAY EIGHT

### *Peacemakers*

***We pray for peacemakers around the world, working in local communities in all ways. Here are some of the recent recipients of the Wilson/Hinkes Peace Award—Full stories are available on [www.weekofprayerforworldpeace.co.uk](http://www.weekofprayerforworldpeace.co.uk)***

**Sr. Elizabeth O'Donohoe** was a teacher and chaplain and then worked as a psychotherapist. Since 1994 she has been involved as a key person in the Westminster Diocesan Interfaith Commission annual Multi-Faith Pilgrimage for Peace.

**Takako Barker** is a Japanese woman who has lived in the UK for over 20 years. Takako brought a large exhibition from the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum to the UK to raise awareness of nuclear weapons. She has been holding a solitary protest

weekly outside the Japanese Embassy against the proposed changes to the Japanese constitution that would allow the use of military force.

**Issa Souf** is a Palestinian who hosted and helped coordinate joint Israeli and Palestinian non-violent protest activities in the village of Hares. With others, he founded the International Solidarity Movement, an organisation that encourages non-violent activists to come to the West Bank and to be witnesses to the realities of the occupation.

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 on 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 emancipated from violence,  
a new world where fear shall no longer lead men or women to commit injustice,  
nor selfishness make them 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 we and all men and women were created.

**Week of Prayer for World Peace, 1978**

**Leaflet Order Form**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ORGANISATION \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send me:** \_\_\_\_\_ Leaflets [Costs: 1 leaflet £2, 10 leaflets £10, 50 leaflets £40, 100 leaflets £60, 250 leaflets £100, 500 leaflets £150. Free postage and packing]

\_\_\_\_\_ Young People's Activity leaflets (free)

Donation to the work of WPWP £ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL COST £ \_\_\_\_\_ [please enclose payment payable to Week of Prayer for World Peace]

***Supporting Organisations include:***

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| Al Khoei Foundation          | National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the UK |
| Anglican Pacifist Fellowship | Northern Friends Peace Board                         |
| Animal Interfaith Alliance   | One World Week                                       |
| Brahma Kumaris               | Pax Christi  |
| Buddhist Society             | Rumi Mosque  |
| Christian CND                | Quaker Peace and Social Witness                      |
| Community of Christ          | Rissho Kosei-kai                                     |
| Fellowship of Reconciliation | Catholic Diocese of Westminster Interfaith Committee |
| Gandhi Foundation            | Sikh Divine Fellowship                               |
| Hindu Council UK             | World Peace Flame Foundation                         |
| London Inter Faith Centre    | Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe                    |
| Methodist Peace Fellowship   |  |
| Nipponzan Myohoji            |  |

# Wilson/Hinkes Annual Peace Award

This Award was established by the Week of Prayer for World Peace (WPWP) to recognise significant contributions by individuals, organisations or projects in furthering peace, justice and reconciliation. The Award focuses on grassroots initiatives. It enables otherwise often untold stories to be told and honoured and seeks to inspire others. It is open to all, irrespective of nationality, ethnicity or faith.

Named in honour of Revd. Gordon Wilson and Revd. Sidney Hinkes, both former Chairs of the WPWP, the Award is made annually. The Award, valued at £500, is this year sponsored by the Anglican Pacifist Fellowship and will be presented at our Annual Event.

Nominations in the form of a letter describing the nominee's contribution to peace and justice issues should be sent to by end August to

Sue Gale [billandsuegale@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:billandsuegale@blueyonder.co.uk) and

Sue Claydon [chair@anglicanpeacemaker.org.uk](mailto:chair@anglicanpeacemaker.org.uk)

*Many children and young people are aware of the needs of the world.*

*They too can pray for peace and learn about peacemaking.*

*We encourage children to also be involved in the Week of Prayer for World Peace.*

*A Young Person's booklet with further ideas for learning activities is available on the WPWP website & by contacting [enquiries@anglicanpeacemaker.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@anglicanpeacemaker.org.uk)*

Dear God,

We thank you for giving us your peace.

Help us to spread peace at home and at school by loving and caring for one another.

Help us to spread peace by listening to one another, even when we don't agree.

Help us to spread peace by sharing our time with those who are lonely and who need a friend.

Help us to spread peace by thinking and praying for children who have no food or who are frightened and live in fear.

Let us pray every day for peace for our families, for our friends and for ourselves. Amen

**From Teach Peace by the Peace Education Network**

*To see past leaflets and other information, please visit our website at [www.weekofprayerforworldpeace.com](http://www.weekofprayerforworldpeace.com)*