

## **Prayer for International Crisis**

Eternal God, our only hope,  
our help in times of trouble:  
show nations ways to work out differences.  
Do not let threats multiply  
or power be used without compassion.  
May your will overrule human willfulness,  
so that people may agree and settle claims peacefully.  
Hold back those who are impulsive,  
lest desire for vengeance overwhelm our common welfare.  
Bring peace to earth, through Jesus Christ,  
the Prince of Peace and Savior of us all. Amen.

## **Prayer When There Is Tragedy**

God of compassion: you watch the ways of humanity, and weave out of terrible happenings wonders of goodness and grace. Surround those who have been shaken by tragedy with a sense of your present love, and hold them in faith. Though they are lost in grief, may they find you and be comforted; through Jesus Christ, who was dead, but lives, and rules this world with you. Amen.

*Adapted from The Worshipbook (Westminster, 1970)*

## **Prayer In Times of Violence and Fear**

Almighty, all-merciful God,  
through Christ Jesus you have taught us  
to love one another,  
to love our neighbors as ourselves,  
and even to love our enemies.  
In times of violence and fear,  
let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts,  
so that we may not be overcome with evil  
but overcome evil with good.  
Help us to see each person  
in light of the love and grace  
you have shown us in Christ.  
Put away the nightmares of terror  
and awaken us to the dawning  
of your new creation.  
Establish among us a future  
where peace reigns,  
justice is done with mercy,  
and all are reconciled.  
We ask these things  
in the name and for the sake  
of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Prayer For Government Leaders**

Almighty God: you have plans for us, and power to make them happen. Give legislators, executives, and government workers a knowledge of your will for the world. Let them remember that they serve a public trust, beyond personal gain or glory. May they see that no nation lives for itself alone, but is responsible to you for peace, and for the well-being of all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Adapted from *The Worshipbook* (Westminster, 1970)

## **Prayer for Those Who Work in International Government**

High God, holy God: you rule human ways, and govern every earthly government. Work with those who work for peace. Make every diplomat an agent of your reconciliation, and every statesperson an ambassador of hope. Bring peace and goodwill among us on earth, fulfilling the promise made in Jesus Christ, who was born to save the world. Amen.

Adapted from *The Worshipbook* (Westminster, 1970)

## **Prayer for Emergency Workers, EMT's, Firefighters, and Police**

God of earth, and air, water and fire, height and depth, we pray for those who work in danger,  
Who rush in to bring hope and help and comfort when the prudent flee,  
Whose presence embodies the protection of the Good Shepherd,  
Whose mission is to seek and save, serve and protect.  
Give them caution and concern for one another,  
so that in safety they may do what must be done, under your watchful love.  
Support them in their courage and dedication  
that they may continue to save lives, ease pain,  
and mend the torn fabric of lives and social order. Amen.

*--Submitted by Bill Deutsch, First Presbyterian Church, Millersburg, Kentucky*

## **Prayer for Those in Medical Services**

Merciful God: by your power people are healed. Give strength to doctors, nurses, and technicians who staff hospitals and homes for the sick. Make them brave to battle our last enemy, trusting your power to overcome death and pain and crying. May they be thankful for every sign of health you give, and humble before the mystery of mending grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Adapted from *The Worshipbook* (Westminster, 1970)

## **Prayer for Counselors**

God of wisdom, God of love: when we are perplexed you give light to go by. Thank you for those who work out problems with us. May they have respect for our struggles, and never fail to marvel at the mystery of human minds. Guide them with your Holy Spirit, so they may guide us into the way of Jesus Christ, our truth and our new life. Amen.

Adapted from *The Worshipbook* (Westminster, 1970)



## **Prayer For Those in Military Service**

Righteous God: you rule the nations. Guard brave men and women who risk themselves for their country. Give them compassion for enemies who also fight for patriotic causes. Keep our youth from hate that hardens, or from scorekeeping with human lives. Though they prepare for war, let them live for peace, as eager for agreement as for victory. Encourage them as they encourage one another, and never let hard duty separate them from loyalty to your Son, our Lord, Jesus *Christ. Amen.*

Adapted from *The Worshipbook* (Westminster, 1970)

## **Prayer for Those Who Refuse Military Service**

God of peace, whose Son Jesus Christ came preaching goodwill among us: guard brave people who refuse military service because of conviction. May they never confuse conscience with cowardice, but, in good faith, withstand all public opposition. Save them from self-righteousness. Give them charity to love their brothers and sisters who fight, but courage to speak the call to peace, heard in Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord. Amen.

Adapted from *The Worshipbook* (Westminster, 1970)