

**We gather together today with an open heart, and with the gifts of hospitality and respect. We extend to every person and creature on this planet a welcoming, as they share with us our universal prayer for peace and justice. And so we begin...**

### Jewish Prayer for Peace

Come let us go up 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.

### Jainist Prayer for Peace

Peace and Universal Love is the essence of the Gospel preached by all the Enlightened Ones.

The Lord has preached that equanimity is the Dharma.

Forgive do I creatures all, and let all creatures forgive me.

Unto all have I amity, and unto none enmity.

Know that violence is the root cause of all miseries in the world. Violence, in fact, is the knot of bondage.

"Do not injure any living being": This is the eternal, perennial, and unalterable way of spiritual life.

A weapon, howsoever powerful it may be, can always be superseded by a superior one; but no weapon can, however, be superior to non-violence and love.

### Taoist Prayer: Lao-tsu's Peace Prayer

If there is to be peace in the world, 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.

### 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,  
so do to them.

### Bahai' Prayer for Peace

Be generous in prosperity, and thankful in adversity.  
Be fair in thy judgment, and guarded in thy speech.  
Be a lamp unto those who walk in darkness,  
and a home to the stranger.  
Be eyes to the blind, and a guiding light unto the feet of the erring.  
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.

**Sikh Prayer for Peace**

God adjudges us according to our deeds, not the coat that we wear:  
that truth is above everything,  
but higher still is truthful living.

Know that we attaineth God when we loveth,  
and only that victory endures in consequences of which  
no one is defeated.

**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.

**Muslim Prayer for Peace**

In the name of Allah, the beneficent, 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 incline towards peace, do thou also incline towards peace,  
And trust God, for the Lord is the one that heareth and knoweth all things.  
And the servants of God, Most Gracious  
are those who walk on the Earth in humility, and when we address them,  
we say "PEACE."

### **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.

### **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 wilderness-- the children, the  
aged, the unprotected--  
be guarded by beneficent celestials, and may they swiftly attain Buddhahood.

### **Zoroastrian Prayer for Peace**

We pray to God to eradicate all the misery in the world:  
that understanding triumph over ignorance,  
that generosity triumph over indifference,  
that trust triumph over contempt, and that  
truth triumph over falsehood.

### **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 good things that you provide for us on this Earth.

### Confucians Prayer for Peace

Through what can the Empire be settled? Through unity. Who can unite it? One who is not fond of killing.

Try your best to treat others as you would wish to be treated yourself, and you will find that this is the shortest way to benevolence.

### **Prayer for World Peace** - Joan Chittister

Great God, who has told us  
"Vengeance is mine,"  
save us from ourselves,  
save us from the vengeance in our hearts  
and the acid in our souls.

Save us from our desire to hurt as we have been hurt,  
to punish as we have been punished,  
to terrorize as we have been terrorized.

Give us the strength it takes  
to listen rather than to judge,  
to trust rather than to fear,  
to try again and again  
to make peace even when peace eludes us.

We ask, O God, for the grace  
to be our best selves.  
We ask for the vision  
to be builders of the human community  
rather than its destroyers.  
We ask for the humility as a people  
to understand the fears and hopes of other peoples.

We ask for the love it takes  
to bequeath to the children of the world to come  
more than the failures of our own making.  
We ask for the heart it takes

to care for all the peoples  
of Afghanistan and Iraq, of Palestine and Israel  
as well as for ourselves.

Give us the depth of soul, O God,  
to constrain our might,  
to resist the temptations of power  
to refuse to attack the attackable,  
to understand  
that vengeance begets violence,  
and to bring peace--not war--wherever we go.

For You, O God, have been merciful to us.  
For You, O God, have been patient with us.  
For You, O God, have been gracious to us.

And so may we be merciful  
and patient  
and gracious  
and trusting  
with these others whom you also love.

This we ask through Jesus,  
the one without vengeance in his heart.  
This we ask forever and ever. Amen

