

Religions for Peace

Multi-religious Prayer **#PrayerforEveryone**

We, the religious believers of the world,
honoring our differences,
and united in kinship with every person,
with all forms of flourishing life,
and with the transcendent reality that holds the entire cosmos in being,
join together with the nations of the world,
as they embark on a new journey,
a journey toward light and life, harmony and hope, plenitude and peace.

Our different faiths teach us that we all belong to one family,
fastened in a fraternal bond that can never be broken.
Together, we affirm the sacredness of all life,
the dignity of every person,
and the unfathomable mystery of all that exists.

We believe that each person is called to flourish,
to answer the summons to become who they were born to be,
to add their own chapter to our one human story.
We know that each is responsible for the other,
and that each is inseparable from the other,
so that the quest of one folds into the quest of all;
we also know that each is inseparable from the sacred earth,
gifting us with life, vitality, and abundance.

So we raise our voices, in different tongues and faiths;
to decry the infamy of waste amidst want,
of poverty amidst plenty,
of hunger amidst abundance;
we abhor the wounding of our earth, as we hear her parched cry,
in the deserts in our lands and in our hearts;
we denounce the scandal of exclusion and indifference,
as so many are not even granted the right to have rights,
as their path is barricaded and their gate bolted,
as the private gain tramples the common good,
and self-indulgence is chosen over all that endures.

But we now welcome the rising sun of a new day,
a dawn that is halting, and yet hopeful,
as the world's leaders pledge to change course,

to care for all people,
to heal the planet,
to unite in partnership,
and nurture the deep seeds of peace.

We, the religious believers of the world,
pledge our support for this noble task;
we pray for the day when all can walk life's path,
with the help of all and the hindrance of none:
people of all ages, all genders, all backgrounds,
the poor, the excluded, the migrant, the indigenous;
we pray for the day when all will cherish the earth we call home,
so she can bear fruit for ages to come.

We pray for a return to our original hearts,
that we may drink again from the deep wells of virtue,
wells that dot the landscapes of our faiths,
old wells, sacred relics of an ancient inheritance,
too often neglected in these days of indifference,
spurned for the stagnant waters of greed,
waters that bring fleeting satisfaction and momentary pleasure,
but cannot quench the thirst that rises
from the deepest recesses of our being.

We, the religious believers of the world,
pledge to partner with all peoples,
of all faiths and none,
to welcome the other,
to treat each as another self,
and to cherish our bountiful earth.

We know that this honors the gift of peace,
true peace, our peace,
a peace that radiates from the core of our being,
suffusing the whole self, the other, the earth.
We know that each is called by their faith,
united in affinity, but honoring our differences,
to walk with joy on this great path of peace.