

Pray for Peace

“If my people who are called by my name, humble themselves, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and heal their land.” 2 Chronicles 7:14

“...seek peace, and pursue it.” Psalm 34:14

“...my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed...” Isaiah 54:10

“I will make with them a covenant of peace...” Ezekiel 34:25

“and he is named...Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6b

“...there shall be endless peace....with justice and with righteousness....” Isaiah 9:7

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.” John 14:27

“...in me you may have peace.” John 16:33

“...we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ....” Romans 5:1

“Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”
2 Corinthians 1:2

“...Glory to God...on earth peace...” Luke 2:14

“For he is our peace...has broken down the dividing wall...he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near...”
Ephesians 2:14, 17

“...the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:7

“...let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts....” Colossians 3:15a

“...let them seek peace and pursue it.” 1 Peter 3:11

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God.”
Matthew 5:9

“Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” Matthew 6:10

World Methodist Council
For **Pray for Peace** resources go to
www.WorldMethodist.org

和平 Hóa Bính Guduru Rauha
Vaka'egu Lape Fred Amani
Ειρήνή KAGISO Udo
Friede Uxolo Asomdwae
Salam Rahu Alaafia Shant Sith
Vrede Ukuthula Khotso
Mir La Paix LA PAZ
shalom Garoo Heddwch

pray for
peace
in every tongue
in the name of the
prince of peace

Pokój Rongo Pyung Hwa Kapayapaan
Damai Sejahtera Melino Frieden
Miers Мир Bairs Paqe
Sama Lafia Pace Béke Taika

PRAY FOR PEACE

First Sunday in Advent

We who are part of the growing World Methodist family are called in this day of mistrust, violence and war to join hands, minds and hearts as disciples of the Prince of Peace to pray for and seek peace. In Matthew 5:9 we find the foundation for our pursuit of peace: “Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called the children of God.”

The coming Messiah was announced by the Prophet Isaiah as the “Prince of Peace.” When our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ came into the world as the Babe of Bethlehem, the angel declared, “I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people,” and the heavenly choir sang, “Glory to God...and on earth peace....” We who are followers of Christ Jesus must speak and reflect the message of peace that was at the very center of his message, life and ministry.

We live in a complex world that seems to be trapped in a never ending cycle of misunderstanding, conflicts and wars. There are no easy answers to the difficult questions in the demand for justice from the different perspectives of people, cultures and nations. The political arena often fails in its efforts for peace. This is a moment in which we, who are followers of Jesus, must clearly state our confidence and hope that in faithfulness to the Living God we may have peace in the world.

“Peace is a noble goal,” wrote President Boris Trajkovski, of the Republic of Macedonia in an Upper Room devotional. He quoted Psalm 85:10, “Love and faithfulness meet together; righteousness and peace kiss each other,” and he concluded that peace grows from righteousness. President Trajkovski, a recipient of the World Methodist Peace Award, wrote only days before his tragic death, “If we are truly interested in achieving peace in this world—harmony, tranquility, and freedom from war and its ravages—then we must pursue righteousness. Only when our hearts, minds, motives and actions are focused on Jesus Christ will we build lasting peace.” *(This material is copyrighted 2005 by The Upper Room, Nashville, TN, and used by permission of the publisher.)*

Therefore, World Methodist Evangelism, World Methodist Council calls the World Methodist Family to Pray for Peace annually on the first Sunday in Advent, during this quinquennium beginning 2 December, 2007. In keeping with the purpose and ministry of this Council and our friends around the world, we will observe a sacred time of fervent prayer for peace in this world and for all humankind. Together we will be praying for

Peace with God within our inner selves

Peace within our families and closest relationships

Peace within our churches

Peace within our villages, communities, cities

Peace within our nation

Peace among the nations

Peace for all God’s Creation.

We urge the World Methodist Family on the first Sunday in Advent to join together to Pray for Peace in the name of the Prince of Peace in many tongues.

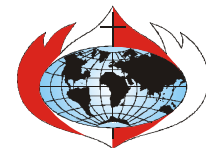
Our prayer is that the bell of peace will ring all over this world.

I heard the bells on Christmas day
Their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet the words repeat
Of peace on earth, goodwill to men (all.)

Yet pealed the bells more loud and deep:
“God is not dead, nor doth He sleep;
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,
With peace on earth, good will to men (all.)”

Longfellow

Pray for Peace



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