



From the 2nd to the 3rd Sunday in October

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

The Week of Prayer for World Peace was started as a Christian initiative in 1974. It soon became an interfaith activity, and now welcomes everyone, of all faith traditions or none. Our first Chair, the late Dr Edward Carpenter, former Dean of Westminster Abbey, established the guiding principle of the Week in the words “The peace of the world must be prayed for by the faiths of the world”, and this continues to be the basis of our work today.

For those inspired with the idea of praying with people of all beliefs, three thoughts may be helpful. First, the different words we recite are said by neighbours in the same town and the same street every week, and by sharing together we simply bring under one roof what happens anyway under the same sky. Secondly, 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. Thirdly, we recognise that interfaith partnership does not in itself imply agreement.

The things we agree on are many and precious. What we disagree on is precious too. Wherever possible we give our interior assent to all who stand and pray for peace with us. When that is challenging, we withhold our interior assent, yet stand with that person, as a friend and as a partner for peace.

The Week of Prayer for World Peace 2019 is from the 2nd to the 3rd Sunday in October. Use this leaflet of reflections and prayers during this week and at any time you feel moved to, and let us know how you observe the Week of Prayer for World Peace—contact details on the order form.

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

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DAY ONE

Celebrating Unity

We pray for the insight and realisation that all life is ultimately connected

We are going to have to create a new language of prayer and this new language of prayer has to come out of something which transcends all our traditions, and comes out of the immediacy of love.

Thomas Merton

Beloved, remind us, however lost we may feel, that we are never outside the Light. We are intimately known by it, sustained by it and returned to it – daily – now – and when we pass away. Beloved, remind us, no matter how discouraged we may be, that the Light delights in us, plays in us, becomes

in us. Then we can be at peace – for no matter what occurs in our lives, we can always find our way home to the core, the truth of our being.

Friends' Fellowship of Healing

You will not believe until you love for your brother what you love for yourself.

Muslim

Happiness comes to those who bring happiness to others.

Zoroastrian



DAY TWO

Environment and Climate Change

We pray for the willingness and the ability to take necessary measures to protect our environment.

The trouble is you think you have time.

Buddha

O Holy one Who Is Love, Hope, Grace and Breath transform our sadness and doubt into songs for Life.

We pray for our beloved planet and all brothers and sisters.

May healing waters bathe the rivers and oceans.

May small, deliberate actions grow seeds of Earth justice.

May one prophetic note of the smallest birdsong courageously sung on a busy street at dawn inspire leaders to free their voices to speak for the Common Good and future generations.

O God of All Names and Beyond All Names, Whose Face is Love

May I and we collectively

Be the face of Transforming Love

In this moment, in this day, in these times.

Amen.

From "Full Circle" by Howard Shapiro

Let noble thoughts come to us from every side.

Hindu, Rigveda

By the grace of your name may humanity find itself lifted higher and higher. In your dispensation, O Lord, let virtue reign in every human heart.

Sikh



DAY THREE

Sharing our resources

May we be led to implement changes so that inequalities in income and opportunity are remedied.

The world has enough for everyone's need, but not everyone's greed.

Mahatma Gandhi

Do good for others. It will come back to you in unexpected ways.

Brahma Kumaris

If you knew what I know about the power of giving, you would not let a single meal pass without sharing it in some way.

Buddha

Like slavery and apartheid, poverty is not natural. It is man-made and it can be overcome and eradicated by the action of human beings.....

Do not look the other way; do not hesitate.

Recognise that the world is hungry for action, not words. Act with courage and vision.

Nelson Mandela

Those who spend their wealth in Allah's cause are like grains of corn which produce seven ears, each bearing a hundred grains.

Muslim



DAY FOUR

Animals and Insects

May we hold within our awareness the needs of the animal and insect kingdoms so that they may live in harmony with us.

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love, That we may protect life and beauty.

Pope Francis

O God, enlarge within us the sense of fellowship with all living things, our brothers the animals to whom thou gave the earth as their home in common with us. May we realize that they live not for us alone but for themselves and for Thee, and that they love the sweetness of life.

St. Basil

Insects have a life of their own, and a beauty to match.

Anthony Hincks



DAY FIVE

Respect

We pray that we may respect others even though they may seem different from ourselves. Let us respect and rejoice in each other's uniqueness

Kill not, cause no pain. Non-violence is the greatest religion.

Jain

If we believe that we are all made in the image of God, then how can we hurt and kill another human being without wounding God? Each of us is unique and infinitely precious. Help us to see each other as individuals, dispel our ignorance and prejudice, teach us to love and not to hate, to trust and not to fear, not judging, but reaching out to each other so that we may do our part, however small, in the healing of our broken world.

Sue Gale, WPWP Executive Committee

If the learned and worldly-wise men of this age were to allow mankind to inhale the fragrance of fellowship and love, every

understanding heart would apprehend the meaning of true liberty, and discover the secret of undisturbed peace and absolute composure.

Bahá'u'lláh, Bahá'í

The one love that binds use expresses itself in the fullest spectrum of the rainbow. A joy to behold and a joy to be with.

Benaifer Bhandar, WPWP Executive Committee

The humble, meek, just, pious, and devout souls are everywhere of one religion; and when death has taken off the mask they will know one another, though the divers liveries they wear here makes them strangers.

William Penn, Quaker



DAY SIX

Friendship

We pray that our words and deeds be focussed upon creating harmony and friendship

Love is the bridge between you and everything.

Rumi, Muslim

We should seek friends not to kill time with, but those who make us go beyond time, those who make us feel one with life – in conversation or in silence.

Brahma Kumaris

A friend is one to whom one may pour out the contents of one's heart, chaff and grain together, knowing that gentle hands will

take and sift it, keep what is worth keeping, and with a breath of kindness, blow the rest away.

George Elliott

If you desire with all your heart, friendship with every race on earth, your thoughts, spiritual and positive, will spread; it will become the desire of others, growing stronger and stronger, until it reaches the minds of all men.

Abdu'l-Bahá, Bahá'í



DAY SEVEN

Gratitude

Let us acknowledge the spiritual grace of gratitude. Let gratitude be woven into the tapestry of our lives.

Dear Lord, please teach us to appreciate all that life brings to us.

WPWP Committee

There is a light that shines beyond all things on earth, beyond us all, beyond the heavens, beyond the highest, the very highest heavens. This is the light that shines in your heart.

Chandogya Upanishad, Hindu

How insensitive, inartistic, unscientific and ungracious it is to take anything for granted!

Muriel Lester

Gratitude for love, for safety and for the universe's rhythm, are all the same thing.

In the moment of gratitude, in that moment of stillness, lies Peace.

With thanks comes an eternal Peace full of all hope and opportunity.

Benaifer Bhandari

WPWP Executive Committee



DAY EIGHT

Working Together with Courage

May our heart-felt desires inspire us to work together for the good of all

Nothing we can do now changes the past, but everything we do now creates the future – the future of our children.

World Peace Flame Foundation

Some men and women glory in their exalted thoughts, but if these thoughts never reach the plane of action, they remain useless; the power of thought is dependent on its manifestation in deeds.

Abdu'l-Bahá, Bahá'í

Prayer in action is love, love in action is service.

Mother Teresa

Lord put courage in my head, and take away all that may hinder me in serving you.

Let me constantly remember that my actions are worthless unless they are guided by your hand.

Muslim

It is not enough to pray for peace. We have to work for it – to denounce injustice, not just when it is committed against us, but also when it is committed against others; to defend human rights, not only ours but also theirs.

Rabbi Johan Rayner, Jewish

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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 and

Sue Claydon chair@anglicanpeacemaker.org.uk

An interfaith gathering of Prayers and Peace will be held

Sunday 13th October 2019 2.30pm at The Rumi Mosque in North London
337 Fore Street, London N9 0NU

Parking is available in nearby streets. The local overground rail station is Edmonton Green

ALL WELCOME!

Week of Prayer for World Peace

Sunday 13th October 2019 to Sunday 20th October 2019

*Please join in and together, from the depth of our hearts, let's send out
a united prayer for peace for ourselves, our communities
and all parts of the world.*

To see past leaflets and other information, please visit our website at www.weekofprayerforworldpeace.com