

Overcoming violence – World Council of Churches

Give me a heart of poverty,
able to love and open up and
give myself to others.

Give me a heart of patience,
able to love and live in hope.

Give me a heart of peacefulness
able to love and sow peace in the world.

Give me a heart of justice, able to love
and measure myself by the standard of justice.

Give me a heart of mercifulness,
able to love and understand and forgive others.
Give me a heart of sensitivity, able to love and weep
without being discouraged.

Give me a heart of purity,
able to love and see God in everyone.

Give me a heart of strength, able to love
and be faithful unto death.

Give me a heart touched by the
Gospel, able to love.

A child's prayer for peace

Dear God,
We thank you for giving us your peace.

Help us to spread peace at home and at school
by loving and caring for one another.

Help us to spread peace by listening to one another,
even when we don't agree.

Help us to spread peace by sharing our time
with those who are lonely and who need a friend.

Help us to spread peace by thinking and praying
for children who have no food or
who are frightened and live in fear.

Let us pray every day for peace
for our families, for our friends
and for ourselves.

Amen



Teach
Peace
Pack

Prayers and reflections about peace

If the Earth were only a few feet in diameter – Joe Miller

If the Earth were only a few feet in diameter, floating a few feet above a field somewhere, people would come from everywhere to marvel at it. People would walk around it, marvelling at its big pools of water, its little pools and the water flowing between. People would marvel at the bumps on it, and the holes in it. They would marvel at the very thin layer of gas surrounding it and the water suspended in the gas. The people would marvel at all the creatures walking around the surface of the ball, and the creatures in the water.

The people would declare it sacred because it was the only one, and they would protect it so that it would not be hurt. The ball would be the greatest wonder known, and people would come to pray to it, to be healed, to gain knowledge, to know beauty and to wonder how it could be. People would love it and defend it with their lives because they would somehow know that their lives could be nothing without it.

If the Earth were only a few feet in diameter.

I Believe (found on the walls of a cellar in Germany where Jews were hidden)

I believe in the sun
Even when it is not shining

I believe in love
Even when I do not feel it

I believe in God
Even when he is silent

A prayer of Desmond Tutu

Goodness is stronger than evil;
Love is stronger than hate;
Light is stronger than darkness;
Life is stronger than death;
Victory is ours through Him
who loves us.

Amazing Peace – Maya Angelou

In our joy, we think we hear a whisper.
At first it is too soft. Then only half heard.
We listen carefully as it gathers strength.
We hear a sweetness.
The word is Peace.
It is loud now.
Louder than the explosion of bombs.

We tremble at the sound.
We are thrilled by its presence.
It is what we have hungered for.
Not just the absence of war. But true Peace.
A harmony of spirit, and comfort of courtesies.
Security for our beloveds and their beloveds.

We, Angels and Mortals, Believers and Nonbelievers,
Look heavenward and speak the word aloud.
Peace. We look at each other, then into ourselves,
And we say without shyness or apology or
hesitation:
Peace, My Brother.
Peace, My Sister.
Peace, My Soul.

Prayer of St Francis

Lord, make me an
instrument of your Peace
Where there is hatred, let me sow love.
Where there is injury, pardon.
Where there is doubt, faith.
Where there is despair, hope.
Where there is darkness, light.
Where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
To be consoled as to console;
To be understood, as to understand;
To be loved, as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive,
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned
And it is in dying that we are born to Eternal
Life.

Blessed are you peacemakers

When you speak out
against violence.
When you stand by those
who are hurt or ridiculed.
When you listen to those
you disagree with.
When you give your time and energy
to help others.
When you try to forgive
those who hurt you.
When you love and open
yourself to others.