

Prayers for the World: 15.09. 2022

Pause

Let your God love you
Be silent
Be still
Alone
Empty before your God
Say nothing
Ask nothing
Be silent
Be still
Let your God love you.

Rejoice

**In repentance and rest is your salvation,
In quietness and trust is your strength,
but you would have none of it...**

**Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you;
he rises to show you compassion.
For the Lord is a God of justice.
Blessed are all who wait for him. *Isaiah 30:15, 18.***

**One thing God has spoken,
two things have I heard:
that You, O God, are strong,
and that you, O Lord, are loving. *Psalms 62, 11-12.***

Ask

The Cry to God as 'Father'
in the New Testament
is not a calm acknowledgement
of a universal truth about
God's abstract fatherhood.
It is the Child's cry
out of a nightmare.

It is the cry of outrage,

fear, shrinking away,
when faced with the horror
of the 'world'
- yet not simply or exclusively
protest, but trust as well.

*'Abba Father',
all things are possible
to Thee. Rowan Williams*

Heavenly Father, it is painful to consider the huge problems that beset so many. These are seemingly insurmountable problems. World-wide, more and more people are struggling with hunger, lack of shelter and dislocation from family, village and community, or are forced to flee their homeland. May we not avoid these burdens, averting our eyes. Grace us to pray trustfully, persistently, so that, unbeknownst to us, your answer may be put in motion.

Save us from the snares of fear and discouragement.

We think of those caught up in **environmental disasters**. Especially we pray for the people of Pakistan, for those still on mudbanks, their villages all but destroyed, those without food, children weak and dying, without clean water to drink. Their traditional ways of coping are inadequate in the face of this humanitarian crisis, and their governments have been guilty of poor urban planning and failed to flood-proof their communities. We pray that world-wide distress may galvanising leaders around the world to introduce stronger measures on climate change. We pray for developed countries to take more responsibility by reining in carbon emissions and by providing loss and damage reparation.

We remember also, the people of California, still battling intense heat, and on-going wild fires, who have been without rain for months, and are experiencing financial distress. We bring to you the people of Somalia also experiencing intense drought, and with rebel attack on truckloads of food supplies. We remember the needs of the majority of people in Myanmar, and Sri Lanka unable to afford enough food. We pray for rain to return to Iraq's breadbasket where farmers are leaving their land because of the drought.

Lord, give us *all* this day our daily bread.

Open prayer

Lord, we pray for those whose **lives are broken by war, and autocratic government**, especially in Ukraine, Myanmar and Tigray. May there be ways through the madness. We pray for those who have lost loved ones and those worn down by attrition. Especially we pray for those in Ukraine, who live under threat of radiation near the nuclear power plant. Thank you for the visit of the UN nuclear watchdog. May a safe, demilitarized zone around this plant be agreed upon, established and maintained, and may diplomatic efforts bear fruit.

We ask, Lord, for the continuing tide of **refugees** world-wide, so many who live in huge camps, with little hope of permanent settlement. We pray for those from Afghanistan and Ukraine who have come to Australia. Especially we pray that more and more Rohingya may be resettled in numerous countries. We pray for refugees from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras where poverty and poor government have occasioned the rise of drug lords and gangs.

I am He, I am He who will sustain you, I have made you and I will carry you, I will sustain you and I will rescue you. Isaiah 46:4

The Stress of Rising Cost of Living and Illness

Lord God, we give thanks for the waning of Covid, and we continue to remember those who are suffering, at home or in hospital, with debilitating side effects, and for those whose loved ones passed away from the virus during these years.

We bring our concerns for many who, economically, were managing to survive, but more recently have slipped into homelessness, those who now have to make decisions about housing or food, and who could not keep warm during the winter. We pray for single mothers at risk, the disabled and their carers and for those who are waiting for medical procedures or who cannot afford them. We ask for the abused, and the neglected. And we remember those without families to reach out to. We pray for all who are deeply affected, who see themselves as worthless. May there be a steady resetting of institutional, governmental, and economic factors that contribute to these tragedies.

Lord God, we pray for healing for these broken ones. Bring comfort and a sense of your Love.

Open Prayer

Yield –

**God of our hidden depths,
in honest regret, in trust,
we confess our faults and recognise our frailty.
Show us that we are forgiven
so that we may forgive:
touch our wounds with your healing
so that we may be people who heal:
help us to be at peace with ourselves
so that we may become makers of your peace for others,
through Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God,
who takes away the sins of the world. Amen**

Blessing

And may the peace of God which passes all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen. Philippians 4:7.