

All are warmly invited to join this faith community in prayers for healing of this world each week. Our pattern of prayer leads us to pause; to rejoice; to give thanks; to request God's intervention in particular areas of concern; to conclude with acknowledgement of God's promises love and blessing. Through 'Open prayer' we are invited into shared or personal contemplation of those things that speak to our hearts of need of prayer



THURSDAY PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD 05 MARCH 2025

PAUSE

**God of our dreaming, come
take us in your arms.**

Lead us onwards to the deeper parts of ourselves.

**Safe and calm through Jesus
the Christ.**

Amen

REJOICE

**Your love, Lord, reaches to the heavens,
Your faithfulness to the skies,
Your righteousness is like the highest mountains,
Your justice like the great deep.
You, Lord, preserve both man and animals,
How priceless is your unfailing love, O God!
People take refuge in the shadow of your wings. Psalm 36: 5-7**

GIVE THANKS

*I'm coming to believe more and more in the truth that everything we do has consequences.
A good deed doesn't just evaporate and disappear. Desmond Tutu*

- We thank you that the Catholic Church of the Holy Family and the Greek Orthodox Church in Gaza are still standing and are giving aid and refuge to people with nowhere to go. May they find grace to help in time of need.
- We give thanks for the way your church grows in Nigeria, Iran, and and the Middle East.

- We give thanks for the way community life has been built around churches in the Nuba Mountains of Sudan, and in the Amhara region in Ethiopia.

When the world expects sadness
Help us, creator of Light, to look for pockets of Joy.

OPEN PRAYER

What does the Lord require of you?

To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. *Micah 6: 8.*

During this time of Lent may it not be small indulgences we give up, but rather the spirit of heaviness. May we attend to that profound desire for rejoicing that comes when things are put right.

- We give thanks for the Anglican Board of Mission and their partnering with those who work to end gender based violence. We pray for the Anglican Church in Zambia training and resourcing local systems to combat gender-based violence and enhance the equality of men and women.
- We pray also for Common Grace here in Australia in their activism against gender-based violence.
- We thank you for Anglican church partners in Kenya and the Philippines training farmers, most of whom are women to take the lead in tackling the challenges of climate change and growing more and better-quality food for themselves and their communities.

Let us not deny sadness,
but make fertile the soil for more joy.

OPEN PRAYER

Little children, I am with you only a little longer ...so now I say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come'. I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you should also love one another. By this will all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another. John 13: 33 - 35.

Lord, we see

- increasing tensions clouding peace talks in the Middle East, and between Russia and Ukraine.
- the growing flood of people displaced from their homes by warfare, with 21 million Sudanese people displaced. The UN facing its most challenging humanitarian project this century and there is appalling violence in refugee camps in Dafur.
- We see countries overwhelmed, trying to accommodate refugees.
- We see families from the Congo forced out of Goma and Bukavu to Burundi.

Let us not deny the darkness,
but choose to live in the light.

Lord, tyrants and unjust rulers seem to have the last word,
disinformation seems to prevail,
**May we hold fast to the truth,
this is a moral universe, unjust regimes must ultimately fall.**

We have seen people forced out of their homes in North Queensland by the huge rainfalls, trying to clean up, some becoming ill because of water-bourne infections. We give thanks for the SES teams that went north to assist.

May we not submit to disaster fatigue,
but choose to support those who help in practical ways.

Lord Jesus, confronted by discouraging news, we accept your call to pray, knowing that this is a task, but a profound one. May we be grounded in your peace knowing that your Spirit prays with us. May we become a community of prayer.

Take heart, I have overcome the world. John 16:33

When we look squarely at injustice and get involved, we actually feel less pain, not more, because we overcome the gnawing guilt and despair that festers under our numbness. We clean the wound - our own and others' – and it can finally heal. Desmond Tutu

OPEN PRAYER

YIELD

And now unto Him who is able to keep us from falling, and lift us from the dark valley of despair to the bright mountain of hope, from the midnight of desperation to the daybreak of joy. To Him be power and authority for ever and ever. Amen Martin Luther King Jr.

BLESSING

May the God of Hope fill you with all peace and joy as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13

Amen