

Pastoral Prayer  
March 13, 2022

O God of healing and of peace,

Amidst heartbreaking images from Ukraine, we pray for peace. In the absence of images from Myanmar, Tigray, Yemen, and Afghanistan, we pray for peace. In our ignorance of violence in other places in the world, in our ignorance of violence in our neighbors' homes, in our ignorance of the subtler oppressions of racism and sexism and heterosexism, we pray for peace and for justice and for righteousness among all people.

O God of healing, empower the peacemakers. Empower us to be peacemakers, to be truly your children.

O God of peace, aid those suffering still from COVID-19. Over a thousand are still dying each day in the United States; six million have now died around the world. Ease the grief of those who mourn, O God. Comfort the tears. Bring healing to those who are sick, and help us prevent new resurgences of the disease.

Come to us in our hurt and grief and sickness and pain, O God. We have been subject to the harsh edges of the world. Reassure us that you made us in your image. Embrace us as we feel alone. Uplift us as we doubt our worth. Strengthen us to bring comfort and healing to those near and as we seek to deliver it to those far away.

With the words of Jesus we say together...