

Pastoral Prayer

April 14, 2024

O Holy God,

So often our first prayer to you must be for peace. With so much blood spilled in Israel and Gaza, must more be spilled in Lebanon and Iran? Must more be spilled in Ukraine and Russia, in Myanmar, Maghreb, and Sudan? How many must die to prove that nobody should die of violence? How long, O Lord, will we grieve you, grieve your children, grieve the very soil of your planet?

Bring us peace.

Bring us peace for minds disjointed and for bodies that act against their own health. Bring us peace in political controversy and in public policy. Bring us peace in the households of our communities and peace within our own hearts.

O Holy God, bring us peace.

We pray your healing for ourselves and for those we love. We pray your guidance as we continue our journey of faith. We pray your aid when there is more to accomplish than our strength can achieve. We pray your grace when our resolve fails and we sin.

O Holy God, bring us peace.

You are the author of Creation, the giver of Law, the provider of grace. You are truth and love. We worship you. We thank you. We praise you.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.