

Prayer Vigil for Peace

Fridays at 6:00 pm



SAINT MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS

EPISCOPAL CHURCH • CORONA DEL MAR, CA

3233 Pacific View Drive • (949) 644-0463

You are invited to stand.

Good and gracious God, we hold before you the people and the nations of the world. We pray for nonviolence and peaceful resolutions of conflict. Give us hearts of hospitality and sanctuary; forgive us our hostility and hatred. Bring all people to the humanity you give us, and to the reconciliation and healing for which you gave your life. Strengthen us all to work with you to build justice and peace, reconciliation and healing, in our hearts and homes, in our streets, in all communities and nations. Bless all who live lives for the peace and wellbeing of others, and make their service fruitful. In the Name of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Psalm 146

Hallelujah!

Praise the Lord, O my soul!

I will praise the Lord as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

**Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth,
for there is no help in them.**

When they breathe their last, they return to earth,
 and in that day their thoughts perish.
Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help!
whose hope is in the Lord their God;
 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;
 who keeps his promise for ever;
Who gives justice to those who are oppressed,
and food to those who hunger.
 The Lord sets the prisoners free;
 the Lord opens the eyes of the blind;
 the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
The Lord loves the righteous;
the Lord cares for the stranger;
he sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way of the wicked.
 The Lord shall reign for ever,
 your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
 Hallelujah!

All are invited to come forward and light a candle during this time of silence.

Sung first by the Cantor, then by all.

O Lord hear my pray'r, O Lord hear my pray'r.

When I call, an - swer me. O Lord hear my pray'r. O

Lord hear my pray'r, Come and lis - ten to me. O

Fine

Holy and life-giving God: send your reconciling Spirit among us. Live and move and have being in every human heart. Do your work among your people – crumbling the barriers that divide us, stemming the violence that pervades our country and our world, bringing an end to the hatreds and the hostilities that break your loving purpose. Heal our brokenness, O God, that we may live in harmony as one people.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Creating God: you made us in your own image; you made us for peace. And yet too often we choose to live in ways that destroy the very humanity you intend for us. Call forth in us that which is of you. Grant us the courage and perseverance to embody your peaceful ways in ourselves and in our relationships with one another.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Mothering God: you gather the suffering in your loving embrace. Come and dwell with those who have lost loved ones to the violence of our world. Comfort them in every affliction. With tenderness, console them in the hours of their need. In your compassion, and by your mercy, heal their torn hearts and lives, and restore them to fullness of life.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Discerning God: you know our hearts, and from you no secrets are hidden. You know the impulse to anger that lies within us and the urge to strike out. Call us to recognize all within us that would break your people. Lead us away from anger towards a deeper love. Strengthen our resolve to live as your compassion, your peace, and your reconciling love in all that we say and in all that we do.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

God of our redemption: our cities and streets have become places of war and violence. Our schools and our homes have moved from places of safety and sustenance to places of fear and anxiety. Let us not be silent. Create in us such a desire for civility, such a longing for peace, such a love for our neighbor that we will not be stopped in our efforts to restore our neighborhoods and our towns. Raise up among your faithful people a common desire to redeem all that you have entrusted to us. Make us bold for peace.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Loving God: you love every person that you have made and call us to do the same. Give us the wisdom and grace to be close to all who suffer in body, mind, spirit, or relationship. Give us the courage to be present to those who live in isolation; to comfort those whom no one comforts; to see those whose pain we would rather not see. Give us ministering hearts and healing hands. Turn our lives and the lives of our churches and communities to seek those who need to see your love in our eyes.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Prince of Peace: you challenge us to pray and to work for peace. Give courage to those who seek your purposes. Stand with those who struggle to reduce violence and to end war, who work to protect the lives of every person. Uphold them in their work by your grace, that we may be known as people of peace, as lovers of justice.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Reading from the letter to the Colossians (3:12-17)

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in your richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

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. Amen.**

Closing Prayer

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.

Blessing

Go forth into the world in peace. Be of good courage; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. And the blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you this day and evermore.