

Prayer Vigil for Peace

Fridays at 6:00 pm



SAINT MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS

EPISCOPAL CHURCH • CORONA DEL MAR, CA
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God of justice and peace, your children are overwhelmed and frightened. So many need your healing embrace. Protect all who live in the crossfires and amid war. Be with the people of Israel and Gaza, the people of Ukraine, people wherever there is war and violence.

God of all nations, loosen the grip that evil has on humanity. Guide the leaders of the world so that their decisions may be informed by your divine wisdom. Help them to see our interdependence and interconnectedness.

Holy Spirit, descend on the many corners of the world in need of your saving love and abiding peace.

Prince of Peace, you said, "Peace I leave you, my own peace I give to you." We long for the day when swords will be beaten into plowshares, spears into pruning hooks. Give us the courage and the wisdom to be instruments of peace. We pray in the name of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Psalm 46 *Deus noster refugium*

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;**
Though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.

**The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.

**God is in the midst of her;
she shall not be overthrown; God shall help her at the break of day.**

The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken;
God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.

**The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

Come now and look upon the works of the Lord,
what awesome things he has done on earth.

**It is he who makes war to cease in all the world;
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.**

“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”

**The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

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

Sung first by the Cantor, then by all.

Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's ho - ly name.

The first system of musical notation is in 4/4 time, featuring a treble and bass staff. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the accompaniment is in the bass staff. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

Bless the Lord my soul, Who leads me in - to life.

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. It also includes the lyrics for the second line of the hymn.

Almighty God, you have promised to hear when we pray in the name of your Son. Therefore in confidence and trust we pray for the Church and for the world.

Giver of life and love, you created all people as one family and called us to live together in harmony and peace. Surround us with your love as we face the challenges and tragedies of our times. For our dear ones, for our neighbors, for those affected by war and violence, we pray:

Loving God, make us instruments of your peace.

God of righteousness, you have given our leaders here and around the world the power and responsibility to protect us and all people, and to uphold the dignity of every human being. For all who bear such responsibility, for all who struggle to discern what is right in the face of powerful challenges, we pray:

Loving God, make us instruments of your peace.

Merciful God, bind up the wounds of those suffering from the violence of war and gun violence, those injured, those left alone and grieving, those who struggle to get through one more day, those who have lost their homes and their land. Bless them with your presence and help them find hope. For all whose lives are marked by violence, we pray:

Loving God, make us instruments of your peace.

God who remembers, may we not forget those who have died. Receive them into your heart and comfort us with your promise of eternal love and care. For all who have died, we pray:

Loving God, make us instruments of your peace.

God of justice, help us, your church, find our voice. Empower us to change this broken world and to rise above our fear that nothing can be done. Grant us the conviction to advocate for change. For your dream of love and harmony, we pray:

Loving God, make us instruments of your peace.

Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers, silently or aloud.

The people may offer their intercessions.

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 Isaiah (11:1-9)

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears shall hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie

down with the kid; the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

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

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit, and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.
Amen.