

# Prayer for Peace

*SETTING Chairs in circle.  
Small table in center with colorful cloth and globe.*



## Opening

### Song

*Peace is Flowing Like a River, vs 1*

Peace is flowing like a river,  
flowing out through you and me.  
Flowing out into the desert,  
setting all the captives free.

### Prayer

*pashta marymoon (adapted)*

LEADER

Soul of our souls,  
Spirit of our spirits,  
And the One embracing All,  
Divine One,  
of infinite names and none:  
Powers of East, South,  
West and North,  
And all who weave the Universe:  
We call to you, within and without -  
This night, this rite.  
God of Air - bring imagination and  
creativity to the world.  
Like the far-seeing hawk,

*All*

*May we see this situation as the  
whole complex tapestry that it is,  
And be in-spired with fresh  
and virgin weavings.  
Like the unfettered winds,  
May we be freed from  
old assumptions and patterns  
in how we respond,  
And breath in new  
possibilities.*

LEADER

God of Fire - bring clarity and  
compassionate passion  
to the world.  
Like the bright light of the Sun,



*All*  
*May we see clearly the way-forward  
of "what is necessary" for all life,  
And the time to come.  
Like the transforming flames,  
May our grief, fear and rage  
be transformed  
into compassion for all -  
All victims and perpetrators alike.*

LEADER

God of Water - bring yielding and  
wisdom to the world.  
Like the gentle erosion of  
water upon stone,

*All*

*May we release our  
personal and cultural biases,  
And acknowledge the 'wrong-  
thinkings' that we may harbour.  
Like the deepening twilight  
upon the earth,  
May we remember  
the lessons of the past,  
And contemplate their meaning  
for the future.*

LEADER

God of Earth - bring greening  
and surety to the world.  
Like the stretching branches  
of the tree,

*All*

*May we stretch ourselves  
Into the life-affirming paths  
of reconciliation and healing.  
Like the deep  
peaceful dome of night,  
May we stand firm in God,  
Through this 'dark night' of  
confusion and fear, and false 'stars.'*

*May our souls be strong,  
steady and revealing.  
May our spirits be en-lightened,  
faithful and sure.  
May our choices  
be wise and enduring,  
for the generations to come.*

## Readings

### Reading 1

"Quest" from *Peace Vigil*

by Anton M. Somlai

[www.dragonmountainpress.com](http://www.dragonmountainpress.com)

(or other reading)

### Song

*Peace is Flowing Like a River, vs 2*  
Love is flowing like a river, flowing  
out through you and me, flowing  
out into the desert,  
setting all the captives free.

### Reading 2

Ephesians 2: 14-18

### Song

*Peace is Flowing Like a River, vs 3*  
Healing's flowing like a river,  
flowing out through you and me,  
flowing out into the desert,  
setting all the captives free.

## Prayers for Peace

### Jewish Prayer for Peace

Come, let us go up to the mountain  
of the Lord that we may walk the  
paths of the Most High. And we



shall beat our swords into ploughshares, and our spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift up sword against nation. Neither shall they learn war any more. And none shall be afraid, for the mouth of the Lord of Hosts has spoken.

### **Muslim Prayer for Peace**

In the name of Allah, the beneficent, the merciful. Praise be to the Lord of the Universe who created us and made us into tribes and nations. That we may know each other, not that we may despise each other.

If the enemy incline towards peace, do thou also incline towards peace, and trust God, for the Lord is the one that hears and knows all things.

And the servants of God, — Most gracious are those who walk on the earth in humility, and when we address them, we say, “Peace.”

### **Buddhist Prayer for Peace**

May all beings everywhere plagued with sufferings of body and mind quickly be freed from their illnesses. May those frightened, cease to be afraid, and may those bound, be free. May the powerless find power, and may people think of befriending one another.

May those who find themselves in trackless, fearful wilderness — the

children, the aged, the unprotected, — be guarded by beneficial celestials, and may they swiftly attain Buddhahood.

### **Native African Prayer for Peace**

Almighty God, the Great Thumb we cannot evade to tie any knot. The Roaring Thunder that splits mighty trees. The all-seeing Lord up on high who sees even the footprints of an antelope on a rock mass here on Earth. You are the one who does not hesitate to respond to our call. You are the cornerstone of peace.

## **Sharing**

*(Words, thoughts, ideas from prayers or readings that spoke to you.)*

### **Song**

*Peace is Flowing Like a River, vs 3*

Alleluia’s flowing like a river,  
flowing out through you and me,  
flowing out into the desert,  
setting all the captives free.

### **Prayers by Participants**

*Response*

O God, Grant peace to our world.

## **Closing**

### **Prayer**

*a four-fold franciscan blessing*

*(World Prayers <[www.worldprayers.org](http://www.worldprayers.org)>)*

*Side 1: May God bless us with a*

restless discomfort about easy answers, half-truths and superficial relationships, so that we may seek truth boldly and love deep within our hearts.

*Side 2: May God bless us with holy anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that we may tirelessly work for justice, freedom, and peace among all people.*

*Side 1: May God bless us with the gift of tears to shed with those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation, or the loss of all that they cherish, so that we may reach out our hands to comfort them and transform their pain into joy.*

*Side 2: May God bless us with enough foolishness to believe that we really CAN make a difference in this world, so that we are able, with God’s grace, to do what others claim cannot be done.*

*All: And the blessing of God the Supreme Majesty and our Creator, Jesus Christ the Incarnate Word who is our brother and Saviour, and the Holy Spirit, our Advocate and Guide, be with us and remain with us, this day and forevermore. Amen.*

### **Song**

*Peace for our Time*

Susan G. Wentz, WLP



## **Acknowledgments**

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