

OPENING THOUGHT

In the month of November, we are called to remember both those who have given their lives in service for their country, but also to give thanks for and remember those who we have personally known, loved, and lost. Over these past few years, during this ongoing pandemic, we have also lost many who have given their lives in service of us, not in war, but on the frontline in health, social care and in serving their communities in so many ways. This prayer card gives us an opportunity to rest in God's promise of refuge and comfort, remember and give thanks for those we have lost, along with the hope that one day there will be no more war, no more suffering and that peace will reign.

OPENING SCRIPTURE

God's Promise

“They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore”
Micah 4:3

God's Hope

“God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death, or mourning, or crying, or pain, for the old order of things has passed away”
Revelation 22: 3-4

PRAYER

As we gather to worship and to pray,
we remember the past and look to the future.

On this day, in an unsettled world,
We come before you God, seeking Your peace.

On this day of hope in the face of terror,
We come before you God, with open hearts:

God our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come.

Help us to find the path that leads to peace.

On this day when we live with the uncertainty of COVID, fearful for ourselves and those we love,
We seek your presence and the grace to trust you.

May we commit to being people of peace.

**May we catch a vision of how the world
could live together.**

And so, we echo the old prayers,

Make us channels of your peace.

**Let there be Peace on Earth and let it begin
with us! Amen**

HYMN

Maybe sing this out loud as a prayer:

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred let me bring your love.
Where there is injury your pardon, Lord.
And where there's doubt true faith in you

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness, only light
And where there's sadness, ever joy

Make me a channel of your peace
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned.
In giving to all men that we receive.
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Sebastian Temple (1928-1997)

REMEMBERING

Pause for a moment to remember and give thanks for those who have laid down their lives for our safety. Perhaps light a candle as a sign that Jesus brings light into those dark places in our world. Join in these familiar words.

*They shall not grow old as we that are left grow old;
age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At
the going down of the sun and in the morning,
we will remember them.*

We will remember them.

A silence may be observed

O God of truth and justice, we hold before you those people who have died in active service. As we honour their courage and cherish their memory, may we put our faith in your future; for you are the source of life, peace, and hope, now and for ever.

Amen.

REMEMBERING GOD'S COMFORT

*Spend a few moments reading these sentences.
Rejoice in the promise of God's refuge and ask for
God's strength for those places in your life which
feel overwhelming right now. Remember those times
when God has been present for you in times of
trouble and give thanks.*

“God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help
in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the
earth gives way, and the mountains fall into the heart
of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the
mountains quake with their surging.”

Psalm 46: 1-3

Bring all your prayers together in the words
given to us by Jesus:

**‘Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

FINAL BLESSING AND SCRIPTURE

Jesus said, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give
you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not
let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”

John 14: 27

“May the peace of God, which transcends all
understanding, guard your hearts and minds
in Christ Jesus. Amen”

(based on Philippians 4: 7)

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TIME TO REMEMBER