



The Presbyterian Church in Canada

A PRAYER FOR AFRICA – NOV. 21, 2017

God of beauty and mercy, look with mercy upon the beautiful continent of Africa that you have made.

We celebrate the new beginning that can now take place in Zimbabwe, as President Robert Mugabe has resigned. We thank you, God of the nations, for the peaceful transition of power, thus far. Continue to guide the hearts of the people of Zimbabwe that they will choose conversation over violence. Strengthen your people that they would be voices of hope and restraint. God, grant wisdom and peace.

We pray for the community of Mubi in Nigeria, God of comfort, as they mourn the deaths of at least 50 people killed while at prayer in a mosque today. Surround their families with your compassion. Give to government officials wisdom and the courage to speak of hope and peace, in the midst of the on-going violence. Bring an end to the violence we pray. God, have mercy.

We pray for an end to doctor's strike in Uganda, God of healing. May government officials and doctors be moved by your Spirit to quickly find equitable solutions to the challenges facing the medical system in Uganda, so that patients can again receive care. We pray for people with health problems or who have loved ones needing health care, give them the peace that passes understanding. God, have mercy.

We pray, God of peace, for an end to violence in Somalia, as a U.S. military drone strike killed more than 100 members of al-Shabab today. We remember family members in mourning. We pray that you would change this on-going war, so peace would come. And then drones could be used to deliver food and medicine, and members of al-Shabab could turn their strength to peaceful purposes. God, have mercy.

We pray for Africa, where millions of our sisters and brothers in the faith live. We thank you for the continent and pray that you will hold the people of Africa in your arms of love and mercy.

These things we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

—*The Rev. Peter Bush, Moderator of the 143rd General Assembly*