

# Champions Pray

## Prayer Guide - April 2021

Prayer is a powerful way to help people around the world who experience poverty and persecution. The first Wednesday of each month, join with other Champions in Champions Pray: an intentional time of bringing the work of PWS&D and the people benefitting from the projects we support to God in prayer.

On May 1, we're hosting Gather2Grow: an opportunity to connect with other passionate volunteers, learn how PWS&D responds to meet needs around the world, and develop skills for engaging your congregation. Wherever you are, join us on Zoom from 12-3 pm EDT/9 am-noon PDT for this half-day conference. To learn more and register, visit [WeRespond.ca/join-gather2grow-on-may-1/](https://www.werespond.ca/join-gather2grow-on-may-1/).

### Opening Prayer

In bright light and dull darkness  
In the energy of each day and the rest  
that comes with night  
We remember the goodness of God.

In the heavens high above our heads  
In waters that run deep around the world  
We remember the goodness of God.

In solid land and flowing seas  
In vivid flowers and fruit laden-trees  
We remember the goodness of God.

In the rising and setting of the sun  
and the cycles of the seasons  
In the patterns of the shining stars  
We remember the goodness of God.

In oceans teeming with fish  
In skies filled with birds  
We remember the goodness of God.

In a world filled with animal life  
And in ourselves as human beings  
We remember the goodness of God.

*From the Church of England's "Creation Prayers."*

### Pray for PWS&D's Relief Work

1 in 3 people around the world do not have access to safe water for drinking or washing their hands. Pray for PWS&D's work with communities to ensure access to safe, clean and fresh water.

Pray about any other recent crises of which you have become aware, and for a world in which these do not occur.

### Pray for Refugees

Pray for refugees whose living situations in overpopulated camps make it difficult to stay safe from COVID-19.

### Local Prayers

Pray for your local congregation/community to be excited and get involved in bringing about God's promise of abundant life for all.

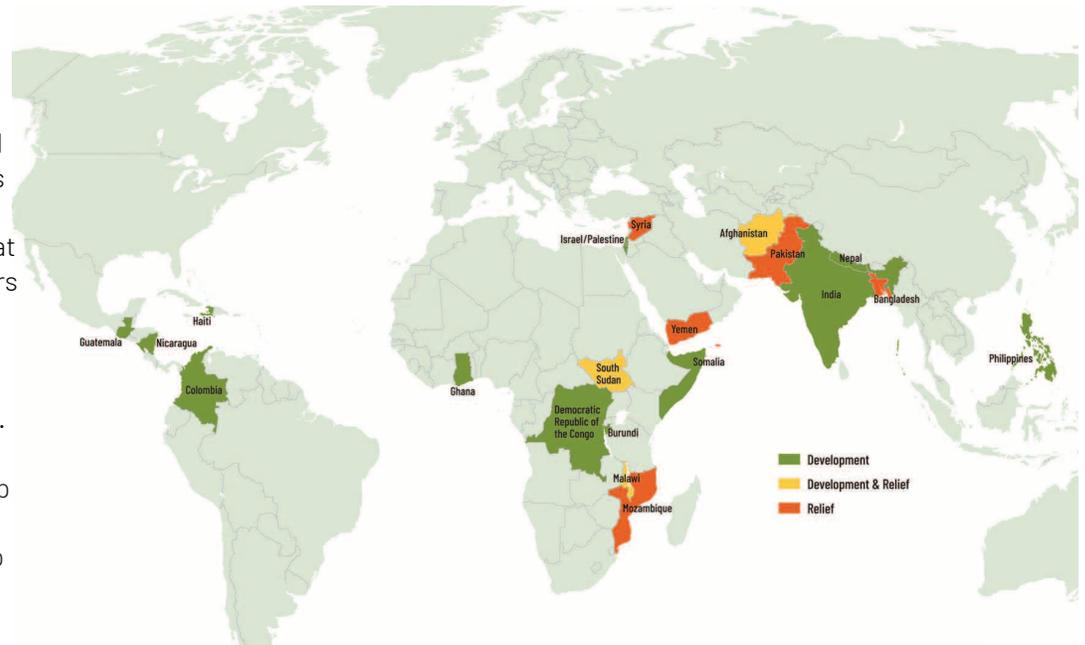
Pray for those who heard the gospel story this Easter in churches around the world.



## Pray for PWS&D's Development Work

Many farmers around the world struggle to grow their crops, as a result of a changing climate. Pray for PWS&D's programs that are helping subsistence farmers adapt, and that all people, around the world, would be better stewards of the Earth that God has entrusted us with.

Choose a country from the map where PWS&D engages in development work and offer up the following prayer for the people there.



We pray for the poor, hungry, and neglected in \_\_\_\_\_, that their cries for daily bread may inspire works of compassion and mercy among those to whom much has been given.

We pray for the farmers with limited or marginal land in \_\_\_\_\_, for those who lack access to water and other resources, and for the light of research and support services to shine in the lives of all God's people.

We pray for an end to pandemic disease in \_\_\_\_\_, particularly those exacerbated by lack of nutritious food and outright hunger; that plagues of death may no longer fuel poverty, destabilize nations, and inhibit reconciliation and restoration throughout the world.

We pray for an end to the waste and desecration of God's creation, for access to the fruits of creation to be shared equally among all people, and for communities and nations to find sustenance in the fruits of the earth and the water God has given us.

We pray for all nations and people who already enjoy the abundance of creation and the blessings of prosperity, that their hearts may be lifted up to the needs of the poor and afflicted, and partnerships between rich and poor for the reconciliation of the world may flourish and grow. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

*Adapted from Canadian Foodgrains Bank (foodgrainsbank.ca/resources).*

## Meditation

Spend some time in silence, contemplating anything God might want to communicate to you.

## Closing Prayer

Our Father, who art in Heaven  
Hallowed be your 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 the evil one  
For thine is the kingdom  
The power and the glory  
Forever and ever, Amen.

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Thank you for participating in Champions Pray. Your efforts are helping to bring about a more sustainable, compassionate and just world.

Please contact [eclarke@presbyterian.ca](mailto:eclarke@presbyterian.ca) if you have any questions or would like a request included on next month's prayer list. For more worship resources, visit [WeRespond.ca/resources](http://WeRespond.ca/resources).