

# OVERFLOWING

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Prayers for a More Sustainable,  
Compassionate and Just World



## **Thank you for joining with us to pray 75 Prayers throughout 2022, in recognition of PWS&D's 75th anniversary!**

Prayer is deeply rooted in Christian life and practice. The Scriptures not only tell us the story of salvation; they also overflow with prayers written out of the depths of human response to God's work and presence, and to the daily pains, joys, doubts, and gratitude that humans experience. Prayer is praise, thanksgiving, lament, rejoicing, asking, receiving and listening. It is response-to and relationship-with God. *Living Faith* reminds us,

*Life in Christ involves prayer,  
The seeking of God's will and blessing  
On all of life.  
Prayer is openness to the presence of God.  
In words, or the absence of words,  
Prayer is the focusing of our lives toward God.  
As we commune with God through Jesus Christ,  
The Holy Spirit enables us to express our deepest longings,  
And we experience the sustaining power of God's presence.*

(*Living Faith*, 8.1.4)<sup>1</sup>

Prayer is thus an important part of our lives, both individually and as we worship God in community.

In this guide, you'll find prayers for specific PWS&D programs and emergency responses, prayers from PWS&D's global partners and ecumenical coalitions, and prayers taken from the Bible<sup>2</sup> or the Book of Praise.<sup>3</sup>

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1 Taken from the Presbyterian Church in Canada's resource "Praying for 31 Countries Around the World Where Religious Persecution is High" <https://presbyterian.ca/worship/>.

2 All biblical references are from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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## Using this guide at home:

These prayers can be used in private or family devotion times to remember the needs of people around the world in prayer. If praying one prayer per day, you will complete the prayers in approximately two and a half months.

Before beginning to pray, take a moment to quiet your heart, asking the Holy Spirit to be present with you. Reflect on anything you might have heard this day or week among your congregation or in the news—a request for support for a family of refugees who have just arrived in your community, a testimony in PWS&D’s e-newsletter about the difference access to education made for somebody in Guatemala or Afghanistan, a breaking story on the news about a natural disaster that has left people without homes or food. Trust this to God in prayer.

After you’ve said the prayer in this guide, consider closing your time with God with a repetition of a prayer. Here is one example:

*Lord, have mercy.*

*Christ, have mercy.*

*Lord, have mercy.*

## Using this guide with a congregation:

The prayers in this guide can also be used during in person or online gatherings, such as Sunday morning worship services or prayer events. Here are some suggestions for how to make the most of them:

- Include one or two prayers each week in the congregational newsletter, either in text or by having someone in the congregation record the prayer on video.
- Beginning with the first prayer in this guide, feature a different prayer each week in the announcements portion of the church service. PowerPoint slides are available for many of these prayers at [WeRespond.ca/75-Prayers](http://WeRespond.ca/75-Prayers).
- Use this resource as inspiration during the Prayers of the People portion of your service.
- Incorporate a prayer from one of PWS&D's partners in a sermon. Videos of these prayers are available to download at [WeRespond.ca/75-Prayers](http://WeRespond.ca/75-Prayers).
- Designate a portion of the congregation's prayer meeting or other gathering to remember needs from around the world. Hand out the prayer guide to all in attendance and have volunteers take turns reading a prayer out loud.

Thank you for praying with and for the church's partners. If you need any further support, please contact PWS&D at 416-441-1111 or 1-800-619-7301 ext. 291 or by email at [pwsd@presbyterian.ca](mailto:pwsd@presbyterian.ca).

**Remind yourself to pray!  
Cut off the bookmark on the back cover of this resource  
and place it in your Bible or journal.**

1 | God, thank you for the abundance of life, relationships, health and comfort you provide us with. Lord, give us strength and love in helping the poor and the needy so that they also see your love and caring heart. Amen.

**Written by Ekwendeni Hospital AIDS Program, Malawi.**

2 | Gracious God, we bring to you the PWS&D project in Guatemala that is promoting entrepreneurship among Indigenous women. Be with those participating in this program now, and those who benefitted from it in the past. Guide the staff who provide community members with training in small business development. Amen.

3 | God of peace, in many places around the world, there is conflict. God of love, in many places around the world and in human hearts, there is strife.

We remember the people in Ethiopia's Tigray region, whose safety and livelihoods are at risk due to political instability. Through your Spirit, protect them. Amen.



4

God, we thank you for your harvest which feeds us  
so many times each day.

We are nourished with your forgiveness and hope.  
We are sustained with your strength and patience.  
We are filled with your grace and compassion.

God, we thank you for feeding us with a harvest of plenty.  
We are restored through your generosity and healing.  
We are replenished with your abundance and joy.  
We are reminded of your selfless abandon.

God, we thank you for feeding us with the bread of heaven.  
Your gift of Christ sustains our lives,  
restores the promise of your love  
and fills our hearts with your everlasting light.

God, we thank you too for filling us with the water of life.  
May we drink deeply that our thirst may be quenched.  
May your river continue to flow over.

Amen.

**From Canadian Foodgrains Bank's World Food Day resource "So That All  
May Flourish." Adapted from a prayer written by Christine Sine.**

5

Great Comforter, we remember in prayer the people of Haiti,  
who have withstood countless natural disasters, including  
earthquakes and hurricanes. May they experience healing  
from the trauma suffered from these events. Amen.

6

You sent Jesus as a sacrifice to save our broken world.  
We pray that the light of Christ would go out from our churches  
to provide hope for all people. Amen.

7

हमारे प्यारे स्वर्गीय पिता, मिशन अस्पतालों के हमारे नेटवर्क के लिए हम आपको धन्यवाद देते हैं। मिशन में सेवारत प्रत्येक व्यक्ति की प्रतिबद्धता के लिए हम आपको धन्यवाद देते हैं। हम प्रार्थना करते हैं कि उनके प्रयास और सेवा को आशीष मिले और समुदाय उनके द्वारा किए जाने वाले सभी कार्यों में मसीह के प्रेम को देखेगा। हम प्रार्थना करते हैं कि अस्पताल का विजन और मिशन मसीह की आत्मा में निहित हो।

Our dear heavenly Father, we thank you for our network of mission hospitals. We thank you for the commitment of each individual serving in the mission. We pray that their efforts and service will be blessed and the community will see the love of Christ in all that they do. We pray that the vision and the mission of the Hospital will be rooted in the Spirit of Christ.

**Written and translated from Hindi by Dr. Priya John, Christian Medical Association of India.**

8

Faithful God, we're grateful for the support of Presbyterian congregations and individuals. From coast to coast, both young and old, we honour the gifts of those who have generously supported PWS&D in upholding its mission to create a sustainable, compassionate and just world. Amen.

9

We join our voices and pray with the psalmist (Psalm 86:10-11):

“You are great and do wondrous things;

you alone are God.

Teach us your ways, O LORD,

that we may walk in your truth;

give us undivided hearts to revere your name.”

Amen.

10

Creator, we confess that we have taken many things on Earth for granted—not the least of these, clean water to drink. We pray for all PWS&D-supported programs that are improving sanitation and providing clean water in communities where access to these things is a challenge. Amen.

11

We pray for the millions of refugees around the world. Thank you for the crucial mental health support provided by PWS&D's partners to refugees from Syria who have experienced trauma and violence. May those who need it access support through this program. Amen.

12

Loving God, we ask for your wisdom as we advocate for a world in which all people's human rights are respected. Be with the many girls in India who have learned about reproductive health and been empowered to make decisions about their bodies and health, through PWS&D's work. Amen.





13

O God, when I have food,  
help me to remember the hungry;

When I have work,  
help me to remember the jobless;

When I have a home,  
help me to remember those who have no home at all;

When I am without pain,  
help me to remember those who suffer,

And remembering,  
help me to destroy my complacency;  
bestir my compassion,  
and be concerned enough to help;

By word and deed,  
those who cry out for what we take for granted.

Amen.

**From Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Written by Samuel F. Pugh (1850-1922).**

14

Lord, we remember in prayer people in Malawi, Mozambique  
and Zimbabwe who were affected by Cyclone Idai in March 2019.  
With gratitude, we think of the generous support that provided  
so many families with the food, water and shelter they needed.  
Help them as they continue to recover. Amen.

15

You came to bring us light and life. "In the beginning was the  
Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being  
through him, and without him not one thing came into being.  
What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the  
light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the  
darkness did not overcome it." We thank you for this  
precious gift. Amen.

16

Querido Dios te damos gracias por los 75 años de trabajo de PWS&D, te imploramos para que concedas sabiduría a cada uno de sus dirigentes y que les des la provisión para los programas que manejan para que puedan seguir apoyando a cada uno de sus socios. Amen.

Dear God, we thank you for the 75 years of work of PWS&D. We implore you to grant wisdom to its leaders and to provide them with what they need so that they can continue to support each of their partners. Amen.

**Written by Fraternidad de Presbiteriales Mayas, Guatemala.  
(Translated from Spanish.)**

17

God, we are grateful for support from the Government of Canada, specifically matching funds that have allowed PWS&D to be even more effective in helping build sustainable livelihoods for many families in Malawi. Open doors for PWS&D to continue in partnerships that benefit those in need. Amen.



18

Our Loving Creator God,  
We bring before you this day  
the burden the whole world carries  
as it endures extreme poverty and hunger  
in every land.

Stretch out your loving arms,  
we pray,  
to embrace those suffering in body,  
mind and spirit.

Kindle within each one of us  
a flame of love and purpose,  
and then

Enable us to channel our love into action  
in every way possible  
and impossible.  
For this we pray. Amen.

**From Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Adapted from Mimi A. Simson,  
in "Lifting Women's Voices: Prayers to Change the World."**

19

Giver of life, we remember before you the many people  
around the world who are food insecure.  
Great Provider, we bring before you the children in  
Nicaragua who have accessed support  
through PWS&D's maternal and child health project.  
May they continue to survive and thrive  
during the important first 1,000 days of life.  
Amen.



20 | God, you are our shepherd. Guide and care for the people of Lebanon, as many continue the hard work of rebuilding their lives after the explosion in 2020. Be with them and with the PWS&D-supported partners who are helping them. Amen.

21 | Lord, we praise you for church schools that have raised funds for development projects in the past 75 years. Inspire all people to respond to Christ's call to serve those in need. Amen.

22 | God,  
in the name of Jesus who gave bread to the hungry,  
we remember all who,  
through our human ignorance, folly, and sin,  
are condemned to live in want.

Show us, who have so much, what we can do  
to help those who have so little;  
and bless the efforts of those  
who work to overcome poverty and hunger,  
that sufficient food may be found for all;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**From Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Adapted from "The Book of Common Order of the Church of Scotland," St. Andrew Press.**

# 23

Thank you, God, for the increased opportunities many women in India have had to earn an income with support from PWS&D over the years. Help those who are engaged in livelihood activities in this country and elsewhere around the world. Amen.

# 24

*This prayer gives thanks for growing projects, an initiative through which Canadian farmers plant and sell crops, and donate the proceeds to support food security for communities around the world.*

Lord of the harvest, we give thanks for farmers. The work of their hands provides for many people's needs. We remember, O God, those engaged in growing projects. Bless their efforts to fight food insecurity around the world. Amen.

# 25

موږ په افغانستان کي د خلکو لپاره د سولې او اميد د راتگ دعا کوو. هغو کسانو ته ډوډۍ ورکړې چې وږي دي، هغو کسانو لپاره چې روغتيايي خدمتونو ته لاسرسی نه لري شفا ورکړې، او ټولو بې ځايه شويو ته گرم کورونه ورکړې. دوی ته د خپل ژوند او هیواد د بيارغونې لپاره سوله، ځواک او سرچينې ورکړې.

We pray for peace and hope for the people in Afghanistan. Bring bread for those who are hungry, bring healing for those who do not have access to healthcare and bring warm homes to all who have been displaced. May they find peace, strength and resources to rebuild their lives and country.

**Written and translated from Pashto by Community World Service Asia.**

# 26

Great Healer, we pray for PWS&D-supported health programs that have not stopped responding to community needs, even throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. We remember in prayer all people who are accessing care through these programs as they journey to health and well-being. Amen.

Lord, thank you for the promise of Isaiah 11:1-9, that was fulfilled when you sent Jesus to earth to walk amongst all you had created. We repeat it, today:

“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 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 he shall 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.”

Amen.

28

God of creation, our world is broken, and we have played a part. We pray for smallholder farmers suffering from the effects of ongoing climate emergencies and for the PWS&D partners striving to end hunger. May the training and support farmers receive help them to heal the land and grow food to sustain their communities. Amen.

29

You came to us as a small child, crying in a stable, and taught us how to love others with poor health or without homes. We give thanks that many mothers, babies and children are receiving support to live healthy, abundant lives through PWS&D's maternal, newborn and child health projects in Malawi and Afghanistan. Amen.

30

Lord, we see the horrifying consequences of violent conflict around the world. We pray for peace on earth, and for PWS&D partners assisting communities in Yemen, Syria, South Sudan and too many other places to name. Place your protecting Spirit over all people affected by violence and war. Amen.



God of many Names  
gathered into One,  
in your glory come and meet us,  
Moving, endlessly Becoming;

God of Hovering Wings,  
Womb and Birth of time,  
joyfully we sing your praises,  
Breath of life in every people.

Hallelujah!  
God is love!

God of Jewish faith,  
Exodus and Law,  
in your glory come and meet us,  
joy of Miriam and Moses;

God of Jesus Christ,  
Rabbi of the poor,  
joyfully we sing your praises,  
crucified, alive for ever.

Hallelujah!  
God is love!

God of Wounded Hands,  
Web and Loom of love,  
in your glory come and meet us,  
Carpenter of new creation;

God of many Names  
gathered into One,  
joyfully we sing your praises,  
Moving, endlessly Becoming.

Hallelujah!  
God is love!

Amen.

**From The Book of Praise. Brian A. Wren. Copyright © 1986 by  
Hope Publishing Co. Used with permission.**





32 | God, we give thanks for congregations that are committed to learning about PWS&D and responding generously to bring about abundant life for all. Thank you for congregations who have celebrated PWS&D Sunday each year. Amen.

33 | We pray for people living with disabilities around the world, especially those who are finding practical support, love and a sense of community at the PWS&D-supported Garu Community-Based Rehabilitation Centre in Ghana. Amen.

34 | Nuestro padre Dios oramos por los miembros integrantes de PWS&D para que sean llenos de tu gracia y favor para que continúen apoyando a las familias más necesitadas especialmente las que atienden la Fraternidad de Presbiteriales Mayas en Guatemala. Amen.

Our father God, we pray for the committee members of PWS&D: that they may be filled with your grace and favor as they continue to support the neediest families, especially those served by the Fraternidad de Presbiteriales Mayas in Guatemala. Amen.

**Written by Fraternidad de Presbiteriales Mayas, Guatemala.  
(Translated from Spanish.)**

35

Comforter of all, many people around the world experience violence in their homes. In too many instances, what should be a place of safety is instead one of fear. May your hand of protection provide care and comfort, we pray. Amen.

36

God, we are aliens and sojourners in this world,  
but you invite us to be your guests.  
You lavishly offer us your hospitality  
and lovingly welcome us into your family.  
You invite us to share in the abundance of your kingdom.

God, you have shown us  
that providing hospitality to strangers  
opens a doorway into the Kingdom of God.  
Remind us that when we offer hospitality to others,  
we are receiving Christ into our midst  
and so fulfilling the law of love.

We open our hearts to embrace the stranger,  
the friend, the rich, and the poor.  
We open our lives  
to offer a generous heart toward all.  
Amen.

**From Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Adapted from "A Litany of Hospitality" written by Christine Sine.**

37

God of all knowledge, thank you for PWS&D's programming in Afghanistan through which many girls have been able to attend school over the past 20 years. We remember in prayer those who currently do not have access to education in this country and around the world. Help us to tirelessly advocate for their right to learn. Amen.

38

O God,  
the source of our belonging to one another,  
none of us can give anything to each other  
if we have not first of all belonged to you;

Give us your spirit  
in the bond of perfect unity  
so that the Spirit may transform us  
into a new humanity,  
free and united in your love,  
through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
your Son, who is God,  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
world without end.  
Amen.

**From the World Council of Churches' "Ecumenical Prayer Cycle."**

39

God, you are present in our moving, and our rest. Thank you for the people and congregations who have participated in the Ride for Refuge and Journey for Hope in support of PWS&D over the past seven years. Amen.

40

Tipemphelere kuti charo chiwe chiweme kwa waliyose.  
Charo chinamasuzgo ghanandi nga ndi ukavu kweniso nkhaza  
kwa bana na bamama.

God, in a world filled with many injustices, including war,  
poverty and gender-based violence, today we pray for a just  
world.

**Written and translated from Tumbuka by Synod of Livingstonia  
Health Department, Malawi.**

41

El Roi, God who sees our every need, we pray for the millions of refugees who have been forced to flee their homes due to violence and persecution, particularly Rohingya refugees in Myanmar. Comfort and protect them amidst the uncertainties of life in refugee camps in Bangladesh. Amen.

42

*A PWS&D Champion is a volunteer who is passionate about the work of PWS&D, stays informed about PWS&D's projects and partners, promotes the work of PWS&D within their community and encourages others to get involved.*

Thank you, Lord, for those who have answered the call to become PWS&D Champions. Encourage them as they help to build God's kingdom on earth. Amen.

43

اسين انهن سڀني جي حمايتن ۽ تعاون جا شڪرگذار آهيون جن گذريل سال ۽ انهي کان اڳ ۾ اسان جي تمام مشڪل وقت ۾ مدد ڪئي. اسين انهن سڀني لاءِ دعا گهرون ٿا جيڪو پاڪستان ۾ ٻار ٻار ايندڙ آفتن جي وقت ۾ پنهنجا گهر، پنهنجو مال، پنهنجي سلامتي ۽ اميدن کي وڃائي ڇڏيو. اسين دعاگو آهيون ته پنهنجن صلاحيتن ۽ وسيلن کي بروڪار آڻيندي مدد ڪري سگهون.

We are thankful for the support and blessings of all those who have helped us in our most challenging times this last year and before. We ask your blessing on all those who have lost their homes, their livelihoods, their security and their hope in the times of recurrent disasters in Pakistan. Help us to respond with generosity in prayer, in assistance, in aid to the best of our abilities.

**Written and translated from Sindhi by Community World Service Asia.**



44

*In situations of conflict and post-conflict women are victimized many times over. Women and women's organizations are integral actors in the defense of human rights and in processes for peace, justice and reparations. Through the Women of Courage project, the ecumenical organization KAIROS works with partners to end gender-based violence in militarized conflict and to increase the participation of women in peacebuilding processes.*

Thank you, Lord, for PWS&D's human rights work through the KAIROS Women of Courage project in Colombia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Israel/Palestine, the Philippines and South Sudan. Be with program leaders as they work to open people's hearts and minds to love apart from violence. Amen.

45

Tikuwonga Chiuta chifukwa cha ubale withu na PWS&D. Ubale uwu wachitiska kuti tifikire wanthu muvikaya na kuthaska ma umoyo gha bana na bamama.

We thank God for the partnership with PWS&D that has allowed us to reach out to communities and help save the lives of children and mothers.

**Written and translated from Tumbuka by Synod of Livingstonia Health Department, Malawi.**

46

God of loving-kindness, we pray for people in need of sponsorship and for sponsoring congregations. Further, we pray for PWS&D's refugee sponsorship staff working as liaisons between local congregations, people in need of sponsorship and the Government of Canada. Grant them wisdom as they do their work with care. Amen.

47

Lord, you created plants and animals, fields and forests, oceans and rains. You declared all things good. We celebrate in prayer alongside farmers in Afghanistan, Guatemala, Haiti, Malawi and Pakistan who have seen their crops flourish as they embrace sustainable agriculture principles that also help them care for your creation. Amen.

48

Lord, thank you for all who have supported PWS&D over the past 75 years. We're grateful for those who have made donations, volunteered their time, or served as dedicated staff. Amen.

49

God, you created our hands beautiful and capable but...  
Too often we use them to grab what we want.  
We ball them up into fists to hit.  
We use them to hug only ourselves.  
We hide them behind our backs  
pretending there is nothing we could do to help  
when we know there is.

So, we turn our hands up to you asking for forgiveness.  
Forgive all the bad we have done with our hands.  
Wash our hands and make them clean.  
Lead us to use our hands well.  
Teach us to open our hands to share with others.  
Give us the power to shake hands with our neighbours.  
Show us how to join hands with our neighbours  
to build your kingdom of love.

We pray in Jesus' name  
and remembering his loving hands.  
Amen.

**From Canadian Foodgrains Bank and PWS&D joint resource  
"Welcoming the Stranger." Written by Carolyn Brown.**

50

God, we thank you for the support that PWS&D gives to  
the Synod of Livingstonia Development Department,  
an organization in Malawi that addresses the challenges of  
vulnerable groups so that they are economically empowered.  
Help the farmers accessing this help achieve food security  
while adapting to the effects of climate change. Amen.

**Written by the Synod of Livingstonia Development Department  
(SOLDEV), Malawi.**

51

We praise you, Provider, for monthly donors who help ensure  
sustainable, long-term support and allow PWS&D to carry out  
programs both now and for the future. Amen.

52

Nuestro buen Dios te pedimos que les des fortaleza y guardes la vida de cada uno de los socios que conforman la PWS&D y la de sus familias de los efectos de la pandemia COVID-19. Amen.

Our Almighty God, we ask you to give strength to each of PWS&D's partners and their families as they address the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Written by Fraternidad de Presbiteriales Mayas, Guatemala.  
(Translated from Spanish.)**

53

*Canadian Foodgrains Bank is an ecumenical coalition through which PWS&D works towards a world without hunger, accessing food assistance funding through matching grants from the Canadian government and collaborations with other members.*

God, we praise you for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. We give thanks for the many ways this ecumenical coalition allows PWS&D to work toward a world without hunger—so that more people enter each day food secure. Amen.





54

Creator of the Cosmos, soften the ground of our being and attune our consciousness to your divine energies for truth, compassion and justice in the world. May our partnerships around the world deepen as we advocate for justice and move toward a future where human rights and environmental care shape our relationships in Earth community.

**From KAIROS's resource "Be Not Afraid: 40 Years of Bold Witness for Ecumenical Justice."**

55

All-knowing God, we pray for the dedicated teachers at the Francisco Coll School in Guatemala, who are ensuring a quality education for vulnerable children. May they feel your presence as they go about their work and may you accompany them to a brighter future. Amen.



56

Creator God, you are the maker of all things. You are sovereign over all. We pray that leaders around the world would have the wisdom to form and keep laws that protect the Earth, today and for future generations. Amen.

57

Thank you, Lord, that you have said, "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." May those who need your comfort, feel the presence of your Spirit today. Hear us now as we raise the cares of the world and our community. Amen.

58

We pray for the rainy season in Malawi: may it be sufficient for the needs of crops to feed all who are hungry. We pray that project participants, communities and staff remain safe at that time. Amen.

**Contributed by Churches Action in Relief and Development (CARD), Malawi.**

59

Loving God, we thank you for parents and caregivers around the world who do everything they can to feed, protect and empower their children. Amen.

60

*The ACT Alliance is a global, faith-based coalition working in more than 120 countries, in the areas of humanitarian aid, gender and climate justice, migration and displacement, and peace and security. PWS&D is among the over 140 members of ACT Alliance.*

Lord, we thank you for the work of ACT Alliance that allows for comprehensive and coordinated responses in the aftermath of disasters. Amen.

Señor, agradecemos por la vida, agradecemos por PWS&D y todos los que ayudan a cumplir con su misión. Pedimos por la humanidad, por que podamos enfrentar con fe y esperanza la pandemia COVID-19 que nos agobia. Suplicamos por el huérfano, la viuda y por cada familia que ha perdido un ser querido debido a la pandemia.

Lord, we are grateful for life, we are grateful for PWS&D and all who help to fulfill its mission. We ask for humanity, so that we can face the COVID-19 pandemic that overwhelms us with faith and hope. We pray for the orphan, the widow and for every family that has lost a loved one to the pandemic.

**Written by AMMID, Guatemala. (Translated from Spanish.)**



62

Powerful God, we raise before you the many people around the world who struggle to provide for their own needs and those of their families. We pray for women in Malawi who are saving together, accessing loans, starting small businesses and building sustainable livelihoods with support from PWS&D's partners. Thank you for the impact of this program. Amen.

63

Make me a channel of your peace:  
where there is hatred, let me bring your love;  
where there is injury, your healing power,  
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 that we receive,  
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Amen.

**From The Book of Praise. Public Domain.**

64

God of strength, we pray for the staff at the Shining Hospital—a PWS&D-supported health facility in Nepal. Be with them as they treat severe illnesses like leprosy and tuberculosis. Bless their work to provide vocational training so that people living with these illnesses may have more abundant life. Amen.



65

*This prayer mentions the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, which highlight the need for strategies to improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth, while tackling climate change and working to preserve oceans and forests. To learn more, visit <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>.*

You call us, O God, to work toward a world with more peace, and less poverty. We thank you for the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. May your Spirit guide us as we are inspired by these goals to work toward a world with better health, education, and economic opportunities for all people, and as we renew our commitment to caring for your great creation. Amen.

66

O God, strengthen the hands and hearts of those working to restore their livelihoods during these trying times. Be with farmers who struggle to grow crops due to climate change, with merchants who cannot sell their wares in markets due to the challenges of COVID-19, and anyone else for whom earning an income is difficult. Amen.

67

Thank you, O Lord of earth and heaven,  
thank you for all your love has planned;  
thank you for food and daily blessings,  
gifts from your ever gracious hand.

Thank you for such a great salvation,  
mercy as boundless as the sea;  
thank you for love which died to save us,  
love which gave all to set us free.

Thank you for means of grace and guidance,  
gifts of your Spirit, strength divine;  
thank you for word and prayer and symbol,  
food for our souls in bread and wine.

Thank you for that blest hope of glory,  
great day when Christ shall come again,  
day when, in perfect love and justice,  
he in his majesty shall reign.

Grant us, because of all your mercies,  
lips which proclaim our thanks and praise;  
lives which, in loving glad surrender,  
serve and adore you all their days.

Glory to God our heavenly Father;  
glory to Jesus, God the Son;  
glory to God the Holy Spirit;  
glory to God the Three in One.  
Amen.

**From The Book of Praise. James Seddon, after Edward Reynolds.  
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68

God, we share in the prayer of CARD, a PWS&D partner in Malawi,  
who prays, "Thank God for resources available to us that have  
helped many people improve their livelihoods." Amen.

**Written by Churches Action in Relief and Development (CARD), Malawi.**

69

Almighty God, we give thanks for congregations who are faithfully supporting the refugees they have helped settle into Canada. From furniture to fellowship, many families who have resettled have their needs met. Amen.

70

Today, we pray the "Five Finger Prayer":

Looking at my thumb, God, I pray for those closest to me:  
my family and friends.

Looking at my pointer finger, I pray for those who point me  
in the right direction, like teachers and parents.

Looking at my middle finger, which stands tall over the others,  
I pray for those who lead our country .

Looking at my ring finger, I pray for those who are poor, sick,  
in pain or in trouble.

Finally, looking at my pinkie finger, I pray for myself and  
my own needs.

Amen.

71

Atate wathu wakumwamba, tikukuthokozani chifukwa cha  
ntchito yopambana yomwe a PWS&D akugwira, pothandiza  
kupititsa patsogolo ntchito ya Uchembere wabwino.

Mudzina la Yesu Khristu Amen.

Our heavenly Father, we give you all the honour and glory  
for PWS&D programs that support maternal, neonatal and  
child health.

In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

**Written and translated from Chichewa by Mulanje Mission Hospital,  
Malawi.**

72

All-knowing God, we pray for the millions of people who are facing food insecurity due to COVID-19. Make us more aware of those in our own community and around the world who are in need, and stir our hearts to respond. We pray specifically for PWS&D's partners who are responding to this urgent need. Amen.

73

Generous God,  
through Jesus Christ  
you have shown us what it means to love.  
And you call us to follow Your example—  
to love our neighbours as we love ourselves.

Continue to write your law of love on our hearts.  
Give us an unwavering passion for justice,  
and a tenacious faith that will not rest  
until the hungry are fed,  
the oppressed find relief,  
and the outsider finds a welcome. Amen.

**From Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Adapted from a prayer written by Christine Longhurst.**

74

Lord, we thank you for the progress that has been made through PWS&D's programs over the past 75 years toward a more sustainable, compassionate and just world. May your will be done through our continued commitment to bringing about a world where all have abundant life. Amen.

75

Oh Lord, give us eyes to see, ears to hear, minds to understand, hearts to believe and mouths to tell others of your love and salvation. Amen.



# What's Next?

Now that you have lifted up a wide variety of prayers for the work of PWS&D and our partners to God, what comes next?

## Pray

- Continue praying for those who lack the basic necessities, that they may experience abundant life.
- Cut the bookmark from the back cover and place it in your Bible or journal so you are reminded to pray for people in need. You can order bookmarks at [WeRespond.ca/75-Prayers](http://WeRespond.ca/75-Prayers).
- If you prayed independently, consider going back to the beginning of this guide, and inviting a friend to join you as you pray through the prayers a second time.
- Use the Prayer Partnership resource, available quarterly at [presbyterian.ca/worship](http://presbyterian.ca/worship), to continue celebrating the mission and ministry of the church in Canada and around the world.

## Learn

- Learn more about the programs you have prayed about by visiting [WeRespond.ca](http://WeRespond.ca), and by signing up for PWS&D's e-newsletter.
- If you used this prayer guide with your congregation, consider inviting a PWS&D speaker to share with your congregation how their prayers and support are making a difference. Contact PWS&D at 416-441-1111 or 1-800-619-7301 ext. 291 or by email at [pwsd@presbyterian.ca](mailto:pwsd@presbyterian.ca) to book a speaker today!

## Act

- Consider becoming a PWS&D Champion, and attending the monthly Champions Pray events. Information about this volunteer opportunity is available at [WeRespond.ca/Be-a-Champion](http://WeRespond.ca/Be-a-Champion).

**Would you partner with us? Make a one-time gift or sign up as a monthly donor to support the life-changing work of PWS&D by visiting [WeRespond.ca/donate](http://WeRespond.ca/donate). You can also designate your support for PWS&D through offerings at your local congregation.**

75Years



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