

Unceasing Prayer

Prayers for a More Sustainable,
Compassionate and Just World



Presbyterian
World Service
& Development

No matter what is going on in the world, we remember with hope that God is in control, and we do God’s will as we continue in prayer.

In 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, we are exhorted to “rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”¹

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)

In this sequel to *Overflowing*, which was released in connection with PWS&D’s 75th anniversary, you’ll find updated prayers for specific PWS&D programs and emergency responses, new prayers from PWS&D’s global partners, Canada-wide volunteers and ecumenical coalitions, as well as prayers taken from the Bible or the Book of Praise.²

Thank you for continuing to pray for people affected by conflict, climate change, inequality and systemic cycles of poverty around the globe.

1 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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How to Use This Prayer Guide

This guide can be used in private, family or congregational prayer times to remember the needs of people around the world.

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—an opportunity to advocate to the Canadian government for greater support for international development; a story of impact about the difference training in sustainable agriculture made for a food-insecure family; a breaking story on the news about a conflict that has caused people to flee their homes. Trust this to God in prayer.

Flip to a prayer in this guide, and read it once or twice as you communicate with God. Jot down any questions or areas for follow-up that arise.

Then, consider closing your time with a repetition of a prayer. Here is one example:

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.





Praying with your congregation? Here are some suggestions.

- Include one or two prayers in your church's weekly newsletter, either in text or by having someone in the congregation record the prayer on video.
- Feature a different prayer each week in the announcements portion of the church service. Videos and PowerPoint slides are available for many of these prayers at [WeRespond.ca/UnceasingPrayer](https://www.werespond.ca/UnceasingPrayer).
- 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.
- 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 aloud.

To order additional copies of *Unceasing Prayer*, and other resources such as posters and bookmarks, visit [WeRespond.ca/resources](https://www.werespond.ca/resources).

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

1

Creator God,

We are thankful for all that you have given us, and for your many mercies. Make us worthy of your gifts and help us, through PWS&D and their partners and programs, to support those who need your tender loving care. Amen.

Written by Thomas Hillier and Victoria Banfield, PWS&D Champions at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Markham, Ont.

2

God, when we think of your creation, we are amazed.

We can never come to the end of your wonders.

But you have entrusted us to take care of all these.

You have shown us how to sustain life.

Help us to use this knowledge for the good of the world,

To the benefit of your people and to the glory of your name.

Amen.

From the Canadian Foodgrains Bank's 2025 World Food Day resource *Until All Are Fed*.

3

Healing God, hear our prayers for leprosy patients who visit PWS&D-supported clinics in Nepal. May they experience healing and feel the warmth of community, free from stigma and discrimination. Amen.

4

Pray alongside AGAPE, a PWS&D partner in Nicaragua:

Lord, we come to you in gratitude for the freedom to worship that exists in our country. We pray for those we serve, that they may

continue to be faithful to God in any circumstance or context.

Amen.

Written by Emily Reyes, Executive Director of AGAPE.

5

Compassionate God,
you see the struggles of the poor
and the burdens of the marginalized.

We lift up to you
those who are sick, suffering and in need of care.

May the Duncan Hospital be a refuge of your love,
where the broken find restoration and the weary find peace.
Bless the hands of those who serve at the hospital—
the doctors, nurses and other staff—
as they bring healing, comfort and hope to the most vulnerable.

Strengthen them to serve with humility and grace,
that through their work,
your kingdom of justice and mercy may shine.
Amen.

Written by the Duncan Hospital, a PWS&D partner in India.

6

We place our trust in you, O God.
We pray for faith to believe that you rule with justice and truth
and can work your good out of this world's evil.

We pray for faith to be calm and courageous
in the face of the darkness that surrounds.

We pray for faith to remain generous with those by our side
and to entrust into your care the many at a distance.

We pray for faith to receive the power of your love
to melt our hardened hearts and swallow up our sin.

We pray for faith to consider the purpose and end of our days,
and commit ourselves to the way of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

**Written by the Rev. Dr. Andrew Johnston, former PWS&D committee member.
From the 2025 PWS&D Sunday Resource.**



7

We give thanks to you, Loving God, that young women and men in Guatemala are learning how to stand up against gender-based violence with PWS&D's support. Be with the program staff of AMMID (the Maya-Mam Association of Research and Development) as they do their important work. Amen.

8

Bondye Papa,

Nou mande ou pote yon sipò mantal ak espirityèl pou fanm ansent yo, espesyalman pou sa yo ki nan sitiyasyon difisil. Nou mande ou ede yo jwenn kouraj nan moman difikilte ak doulè, epi ba yo kapasite pou yo fè fas ak nenpòt defi yo rankontre pandan peryòd gwosès la. Nou priye pou ou pote kalmitid, lespwa, ak kè kontan nan lavi yo, pou yo ka santi ou prezan e ki se fòs yo nan chak etap nan vwayaj yo.

Nou sezi lafwa ou, e nou mete tout sa yo nan men ou.

Nan non Jezi, nou priye,

Amèn.

Heavenly Father,

We ask you to provide mental and spiritual support for pregnant women, especially for those who are in difficult situations. We pray that you give them courage during times of difficulty and pain, and help them face any challenges they encounter during their pregnancy. We pray that you bring peace, hope and joy into their lives, so they may feel your presence and know that you are their strength at each step of their journey.

We place our trust in you and commit all these things into your hands.

In Jesus' name, we pray.

Amen.

Written and translated from Haitian Creole by C-NEW-C, a PWS&D partner in Haiti.

9

Peace-giving God, we pray for peace in countries facing violent conflicts. We think especially of those in Gaza, Ukraine, Yemen, Syria, South Sudan, Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. May swift and peaceful resolutions emerge, bringing an end to suffering and restoring hope. In your Holy name, we pray. Amen.

10

God of hope, we pray for PWS&D partners working in dangerous circumstances amid conflict. We pray for peace knowing that, beyond its impact on people's security, war is one of the major causes of hunger around the globe. God, give us compassionate hearts, open our eyes to injustice and guide us to truth, so that in understanding, we can build a better world together. Amen.

Written by Sharyl Eaglesham, PWS&D committee member and Champion at First Presbyterian Church in Winnipeg, Man.

11

Pray alongside Churches Action in Relief and Development, a PWS&D partner in Malawi:

Dear God, we thank you for linking us with people in Canada who have been a source of support in times of need. We pray that you will cause such relationships to flourish for the benefit of the marginalized people we serve. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Written by Churches Action in Relief and Development.

12

Pray alongside the Church of North India-Synodical Board of Social Services, a PWS&D partner in India:

Dear Lord,

We come before you with hearts full of gratitude for the farmers with whom we are working in Jharkhand, India. We lift them up in prayer, asking for your divine blessings upon their hard work, their land and their harvest.

In this time of climate change, when the rains are erratic, the soil is dry and the harvest is uncertain, we ask for your divine protection and provision so that their fields may flourish, providing food for all.

We pray for women farmers with no ownership over land nor control over resources. They toil on the land but their contributions and efforts are not fully recognized. We ask you to empower them and help them to break free from systems of inequality.

We pray for abundance, justice and dignity—may the fruits of their labour be valued, and may they receive fair compensation and respect for their work.

In your mercy,
hear our prayer. Amen.

Written by CNI-SBSS.



13

God, we pray for the work of partner organizations in Gaza as they serve children and families. Guide them in their important efforts to help relieve psychological and emotional stress for those affected by the Israel-Palestine conflict. Amen.

Written by Cathy Gaddes, PWS&D Champion at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Burnaby, BC.

14

God, we praise you for Canadian farmers participating in growing projects through Canadian Foodgrains Bank. We pray that you bless the funds raised by these projects and used in PWS&D programs so that they will effectively address hunger around the world. Amen.

15

Dear Lord, with a heart full of gratitude we thank you for the strength and wisdom you have given Women for Peace and Democracy to serve women and marginalized communities. Thank you for guiding their hands and heart in this mission of empowerment. May you continue to bless their work, so that every woman finds her voice, her strength and her rightful place in society. Amen.

Written by Shobha Shrestha, Executive Chair of Women for Peace and Democracy, a PWS&D partner in Nepal.

16

We give thanks, loving God, for the Every Youth Empowered Project in Malawi, which is improving awareness of sexual and reproductive health and rights for adolescents and young people. May your love be poured out as project participants learn about and advocate for their rights. Amen.

17

God, bless the earth and the ground we walk on.
Wherever we run and jump, walk and hike
make us grateful for the ground under our feet.

God, bless the earth and the dirt we dig in.
Whenever we taste something from our gardens
make us grateful for the dirt we dig in.

God, bless the earth and the wind that blows.
Wherever the wind has turned into storms,
give people strength and courage
to pick up the pieces of their lives
and rebuild their homes.

God, bless the earth and the rain that falls.
Wherever the water has turned into floods,
give people strength and courage
to clean up the mess
and rebuild their communities.

God, bless the earth and the sky above us.
Help us live wisely under the sky,
caring for the air we breathe, the water that flows,
the wind that blows and everything that grows.

Help us remember the earth and everything in it belongs to you.
Let us treat everything as your gift.
Amen.

From the PCC's *Earth Day Intergenerational Worship Resource*.

18

Pray alongside Women for Peace and Democracy, a PWS&D partner in Nepal:

Dear God, thank you for allowing us to be an instrument of change. We pray that you continue to bless our journey. Open new doors and touch the hearts of those in need. May every woman we empower find dignity, hope and opportunity. Let our work be a reflection of your love and justice. Amen.

Written by Shobha Shrestha, Executive Chair of Women for Peace and Democracy.

19

God, you opened a way for us. We're reminded in your Word that we can approach you "with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water" (Hebrews 10:22). We thank you for this great truth. Amen.

20

God, we pray for people who are suffering due to hunger in Malawi. The fragile economy, high inflation rates as well as lack of foreign investment are making food very expensive, and many cannot afford it. Now, cuts to international commitments for development programs are having a huge impact on people's health and food security.

O God, would those in positions of power and influence renew their commitments to respond.

Amen.

Adapted from prayer requests written by Synod of Livingstonia Health Department, a PWS&D partner in Malawi.

21

God, we praise you for the many ways people raise support for PWS&D's work. We pray for safety and good weather for all who participate in the Journey for Hope each year. Would you bless them, as their hands and feet activate to bless others. Amen.

22

Holy God of amazement and wonder, you are the God of the universe made known in Jesus Christ. You are the source of life and hope, the Creator of all things. We praise you for your creative power, your endless love and your peace that passes all understanding.

You breathe life into your creatures, and we breathe every breath for you. We marvel at the intricacies of the natural world, the human body, the cosmos—you made all of these, and you tend and care for each element of your creation with a love that is so perfect, so all-encompassing. And so, we worship you as the one who created us, who loves us and who guides us.

Generous God, you have invited us to love as you have loved. As much as we try to imitate you, we fall short. The earth suffers because we have not treated it gently or with compassion. Our neighbours are hungry and lonely, and we cannot summon the courage or the energy to help.

Despite our awe of you, we pretend that we have all the answers. Your peace eludes us, because human beings seem to prefer violence and war. Your whole earth groans in labour, waiting for you to do something new. Raise up newness within us—within ourselves and within our community, so that we might find fresh life and a renewed Spirit. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Written by the Rev. Dr. Sarah Travis for PWS&D Sunday.

23

God, we pray for those who are dealing with new realities after climate disasters. Guide those who work to create livable solutions for people and communities in places that are being devastated. Lord, provide health, comfort and community for people who have been displaced. Amen.

Written by Christine Sands-Vizzari, PWS&D Champion at Chedoke Presbyterian Church in Hamilton, Ont.

24

Lord, we your children come to you in worship, remembering that your Word outlines your loving nature. You are the best parent there is.

We give thanks that mothers and pregnant moms in Haiti, with the support of PWS&D, are receiving nutritious food for both themselves and their infants. Continue to provide for their needs, we pray. Amen.

25

Creator God,
the world is in crisis.

We see and acknowledge the changes around us
and we want to do what's right but
we do not always know what that is
or agree what is best to do.

Help us to hear your Spirit calling us to advocate
for fair and just assistance
for people in the Global South
who have contributed least to the crisis,
and yet are facing more of the worst impacts.

We pray for forgiveness for when we have taken too much
or cared too little,
for hearts willing to change,
for the wisdom to know what to do and
for the will to live in ways that respect and sustain
the integrity of your creation.

These things we pray in the name of Jesus,
Amen.

Adapted from the PCC's *Climate Crisis Resource* (2021).

26

प्यारो प्रभु,

हामी INF नेपालका विभिन्न पहलहरूको उल्लेखनीय वृद्धि र विस्तारका लागि तपाईंप्रति कृतज्ञ छौं। सेवामा समर्पित कर्मचारीहरूको सङ्ख्या दिनप्रतिदिन बढ्दै गएकोमा हामी हृदयदेखि नै आभारी छौं। कृपया तिनीहरूलाई बलियो बनाउनुहोस् र उनीहरूको सेवाका मार्गहरूमा मार्गदर्शन प्रदान गर्नुहोस्।

हामी ती सबैका लागि प्रार्थना गर्छौं, जो निस्वार्थ भावनाका साथ फिल्डमा अहोरात्र खटिरहेका छन्, मानवसेवा प्रदान गरिरहेका छन् र आवश्यकतामा परेकाहरूलाई सहयोग पुर्याइरहेका छन्। कृपया तिनीहरूलाई ज्ञान बुद्धि, सहनशीलता, र सुरक्षा प्रदान गर्नुहोस्, ताकि उनीहरूले आफ्नो सेवा प्रभावकारी रूपमा निरन्तर जारी राख्न सकून्।

हे प्रभु, हामी तपाईंको आशीर्वाद प्रत्येक परियोजना कार्यान्वयन प्रयासहरूमा रहोस् भनी प्रार्थना गर्छौं। यी प्रयासहरू उत्कृष्टता, दक्षता, र गहिरो प्रभावका साथ सफलतापूर्वक पूरा होऊन्, जसले सबैभन्दा आवश्यक व्यक्तिहरूसम्म पुग्न सकून्। हामी खाद्य सुरक्षासम्बन्धी कार्यक्रमहरू र कृषि विकास परियोजनाहरूको लागि पनि प्रार्थना गर्छौं—यी कार्यक्रमहरू निरन्तर विस्तार हुँदै जाऊन्, समुदायहरूलाई दिगोपन र पोषण प्रदान गरून्।

तपाईंको अनुग्रहमा, यी सबै प्रयासहरू फस्टाउन दिईदिनुहोस्, आशा तथा रूपान्तरणको ज्योति फैलियोस्।

आमेन।



Dear Lord,
we thank you for the remarkable growth and expansion of INF Nepal's initiatives. We are deeply grateful for the increasing number of dedicated staff who serve with compassion and commitment. May you strengthen and guide them as they continue their work.

We lift up in prayer all those tirelessly working in the field, providing humanitarian aid and support to those in need. Bless them with wisdom, resilience and protection as they serve.

Lord, we ask for your hand over all project implementation efforts. May they be carried out with excellence, efficiency and a deep impact, reaching those who need them most. We also pray for food security programs and agricultural development projects –may they continue to grow, ensuring sustainability and nourishment for communities in need.

In your grace, may these efforts flourish and bring hope and transformation.

Amen.

Written and translated from Nepali by International Nepal Fellowship.

27

Pray alongside Fraternidad de Presbiteriales Mayas, a PWS&D partner in Guatemala:

Señor Jesus en este día nos acercamos a ti dandote gracias por la vida del equipo de PWS&D de Canadá, para que les concedas sabiduría en sus labores que realizan te los ponemos en tus manos.

Lord Jesus, on this day we approach you, thanking you for the life of the PWS&D team. Grant them wisdom in their work. We place them in your hands.

Written by Fraternidad de Presbiteriales Mayas.

28

God be in my head and in my understanding;
God be in my eyes and in my looking;
God be in my mouth and in my speaking;
God be in my heart and in my thinking;
God be at my end and at my departing.
Amen.

Written by R. Pynson. From *The Book of Praise*. Public Domain.

29

Pray alongside Garu Community Based Rehabilitation Centre,
a PWS&D partner in Ghana:

Almighty God, we approach your throne of grace, lifting up our
supplications for all Canadian Presbyterian congregations who
generously contribute resources to support the work of PWS&D in
Ghana and many parts of the world. We pray for blessings for the
leadership and members of these congregations as they continue
to support the humanitarian services of PWS&D across the world.
Amen.

**Written by Garu Community Based Rehabilitation Centre of the
Presbyterian Church of Ghana.**

30

Pray alongside Mulanje Mission Hospital, a PWS&D partner in Malawi:

Atate wathu wakumwamba tikukuthokozani chifukwa cha chuma
chomwe mumatipatsa kuti cholinga chama project a PWS&D
chikakwanilisidwe
Mudzina la Yesu Khristu
Amen

Dear Lord, we thank you for providing us with the necessary
resources for successful projects under PWS&D.

In Jesus' name,
Amen.

Translated from Chichewa.

31

Loving God, we give thanks for the work of your champions— for those sharing your love and mercy around the world. Thank you for all of your blessings, and for those who are doing the work of your kingdom here on Earth.

Written by Thomas Hillier and Victoria Banfield, PWS&D Champions at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Markham, Ont.

32

We pray for PWS&D's refugee sponsorship program. All-knowing God, help congregations, presbyteries and groups welcome to Canada those escaping conflict, poverty and persecution. May those who have been displaced feel your love. Amen.

33

اسان ڀڳوان کان نياز منديءَ ۽ دل سان پرائڻا ڪريون ٿا ته سڄي دنيا ۾ امن، سلامتي ۽ خوشحالي قائم هجي. ڀڳوان ڪري ته هر غريب ۽ ڀٽي پيل طبقن جي ماڻهن کي انهن جا بنيادي حق عزت ۽ وقار سان حاصل هجن. اسان انهن سڀني تنظيمن لاءِ به پرائڻا ڪريون ٿا جيڪي انساني فلاح، بهبود ۽ ترقي لاءِ ڪم ڪن ٿيون جهڙوڪ پريسبيٽيريئن انٽرنيشنل جنهن اسان کي تعليم ذريعي بااختيار بڻايو آهي. ڀڳوان ڪري اهي هميشه وڌن ويجهن، ترقي ڪن ۽ ضرورت مند ماڻهن جي مدد ۽ سهائتا ڪندا رهن. سندن ڪوششون دنيا ۾ ترقي، برابري، ۽ دائمي امن کي هٿي وٺرائين ٿيون.

We humbly pray to you, O God, for a world filled with peace, safety and prosperity. May every underprivileged and impoverished community across the globe gain access to their fundamental rights with dignity and respect. We seek blessings for all organizations dedicated to human welfare and progress, especially PWS&D, which are empowering people through education. May they continue to grow and flourish, always extending their support to those in need. May their efforts foster development, equality and lasting peace across the world. Amen.

Written and translated from Sindhi by staff members of PWS&D's partner in Pakistan.

34

God,
empty me of all that stands between
you and me
that I might be filled with
your imagination, desire, love and will.
Help me to be an effective instrument
of all that you intend.
Amen.

**Written by Kerry A. Robinson. From *Imagining Abundance*.
Reprinted with permission.**

35

Eternal God, the whole world is full of your glory.
We bear witness to the anguish of creation
in this time of the climate crisis.
In your grace, grant us the opportunity to do good.
Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Jesus Christ, you have walked the Earth and lived in our midst.
Make us sensitive to the suffering of humankind
and the entire creation.
Strengthen us in our endeavors to create a life of dignity,
in justice and solidarity with those who live and will live.
Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Holy Spirit, power of courage and self-control,
you speak to our consciences.
Comfort us when we suffer and are plagued by anxiety.
Make us worry when we are numb in the calmness of complacency.
Re-create us to become what we are:
one humanity under the same sky.
Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

From the *Season of Creation Celebration Guide 2024*.

36

We pray for people in Nicaragua who, with PWS&D's support, are learning how to prevent and address gender-based violence. Bless and guide the staff of PWS&D's partner INPRHU as they carry out this work. Amen.

37

Our gracious heavenly Father, thank you for our lives, and the many blessings you have given us. We commit into your hands the PWS&D project in Malawi that is working to address the root causes of poverty and hunger—and especially the many lives this project is touching.

Your Word says to give thanks in every situation.
We thank you, Lord.

In Jesus' name,
Amen.

**Written by Synod of Livingstonia Development Department,
a PWS&D Partner in Malawi.**

38

O God, loving source of all that is, we worship and adore you, by the grace of the Holy Spirit among us. We confess that we have not always thought of the needs of others, especially those far away from us geographically, although their needs may far exceed our own. We ask your forgiveness for our selfishness and thank you for loving us in spite of it.

We thank you for the means to help others, especially those who are in great need. We think of those in areas of conflict and where natural disasters have upended people's lives. We thank you for PWS&D and its work throughout the world, and we pray for our partners in these places of special need.

We pray all these things in the name of Jesus. Amen.

**Written by Nora Martin, PWS&D Champion at Knox Presbyterian Church
in Woodstock, Ont.**



39

Mulungu wathu wakumwamba tikuthokoza chifukwa cha ubale omwe ulipo pakati pa MMH ndi PWS&D. Ambuye tikuthokoza chifukwa cha thandizo lomwe a PWS&D amapeleka kwa ana amasiye komanso ovutika mu dere la MMH potukula myoyo yawo. Atate wathu wakumwamba pitilizani kudalitsa gulu la PWS&D chifukwa chachithandizo chopambana ndi nkono wachifundo kwa ana amasiye ndi ovutika mu dzina la Yesu Ameni.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for a wonderful partnership between Mulanje Mission Hospital (MMH) and PWS&D. God, we appreciate the support that PWS&D is giving to orphans and vulnerable children in the catchment area of MMH to improve the lives of these children. Heavenly Father, continue blessing the PWS&D team for such a wonderful giving hand towards orphans and vulnerable children. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Written and translated from Chichewa by Mulanje Mission Hospital, a PWS&D partner in Malawi.

40

God of grace, we pray for PWS&D partners as they work to provide assistance and emotional counselling to people around the world who have lost their homes, family members and livelihoods due to disaster or conflict. Amen.

41

Dieu d'amour, même le moineau a trouvé un abri, et l'hirondelle un nid pour elle, où elle dépose ses petits près de ton autel. Tu es attentif à tout ce que tu as fait.

Dieu, qui est à l'écoute de chaque être vivant,

Aide-nous à écouter comme tu le fais.

Dieu d'amour, aide-nous à donner refuge à tous les animaux et à toutes les plantes avec lesquels nous vivons. Aide-nous à être attentifs à tout ce que tu as créé.

Dieu, en qui subsiste toute la création,

Aide-nous à écouter comme tu le fais.

Dieu d'amour, lorsque Jésus a crié et rendu son Esprit, la terre a tremblé et les rochers se sont fendus. toute la création qui t'écoute te connaît.

Dieu, à qui toute la création répond,

Aidez-nous à te répondre.

Dieu d'amour, aide-nous à t'entendre et à te connaître comme le font la terre et les rochers. Aide-nous à tirer des leçons de ce que nous voyons de la création et à reconnaître ta glorieuse beauté.

Dieu, à qui toute la création répond,

Aidez-nous à te répondre.

Dieu d'amour, tu es présent dans ta création et tu cherches à guérir ses blessures. On peut te voir te promener dans le jardin. Ouvre nos yeux pour que nous te voyions, toi le jardinier.

Dieu, qui est présent avec ta présents,

Aidez-nous à être présents, nous aussi.

Dieu d'amour, souvent, nous abandonnons ta création et nous la blessons. Aide-nous à suivre tes pas et apprends-nous à nous promener dans le jardin comme toi.

Dieu, qui est présent avec ta création,

Aidez-nous à être présents, nous aussi.

Dieu d'amour, qui entend chaque voix, connaît chaque cri d'injustice et qui est attentive aux souffrances de la terre : apprends-nous à écouter. Apporte la guérison dans nos vies, afin que nous puissions protéger le monde et non l'exploiter, que nous puissions écouter le monde que tu as créé et non nous en isoler. Révèle-nous comment nous avons pu traiter la terre sans entendre ta voix.

Dieu, qui est à l'écoute de chaque être vivant,

Aide-nous à écouter comme tu le fais.

Amen.

Loving God, even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she places her young near your altar.

You are attentive to all you have made.

God, who listens to every living thing,

Help us listen as you do.

Loving God, help us provide refuge to every animal and plant with whom we live. Help us be attentive to all you have made.

God, in whom all creation subsists,

Help us listen as you do.

Loving God, when Jesus cried out and gave up his Spirit, the earth shook and the rocks split. You are known by the whole of creation that listens to you.

God, to whom all creation responds,

Help us respond to you.

Loving God, help us hear and know you just as the earth and rocks do. Help us to learn from the way in which we see creation recognize your glorious beauty.

God, to whom all creation responds,

Help us respond to you.

Loving God, you are present in your creation and seek to heal her wounds. You can be found walking in the garden. Open our eyes to see you, the gardener.

God, who is present with your creation,

Help us be present too.

Loving God, we often abandon your creation and cause its wounds. Help us to follow in your footsteps and learn to walk in the garden like you.

God, who is present with your creation,

Help us be present too.

Loving God, who hears every voice, knows each cry of injustice and is attentive to the suffering of the earth: teach us to listen. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may listen to the world you have created and not close ourselves off from it. Reveal to us the ways in which we have failed to hear your voice in how we treat the earth.

God, who listens to every living thing,

Help us listen as you do.

Amen.

From the *Season of Creation Celebration Guide 2022*.

42

O God, we lift Afghanistan in our prayers as millions face severe food insecurity. May PWS&D's food assistance project provide vital support to those most affected. Amen.

43

Great Provider, thank you for the hope felt by people who are receiving education, skills training and small business opportunities through PWS&D's livelihoods programs. We entrust the continued financial stability of program participants into your hands, as they work to grow their livelihoods and become more resilient against cycles of poverty. Amen.

44

Dear Lord,

We pray for blessing upon young people who work alongside the CNI SBSS team. We pray that you will nurture them. May they be motivated to serve for the good of the community.

We pray that you would provide opportunities for young people to develop their skills and live up to their full potential.

We pray that you will raise up good leaders from among them, who will lead with wisdom, courage and integrity. May their voices be heard and valued, as they advocate for justice, peace and progress.

In your mercy,
hear our prayers. Amen.

**Written by Church of North India-Synodical Board of Social Services,
a PWS&D partner in India.**

45

Gracious God,

The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.
Thank you for sending your people to plant seeds and that you continue to grow them.

We pray for students across the world. Whichever season they are in, we pray that you still their hearts and minds to pursue wisdom and knowledge for the glory of your kingdom. We pray that you equip students to be the next generation of leaders and that they know that you are a loving God.

Gracious God, you are great and you are good. You are loving and almighty. We pray that you bless students and work in them in the days to come. Honour, power and glory all belong to you. In the mighty and matchless name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Written by Joseph Ragbir, PWS&D Champion at Montreal School of Theology.

46

Pray alongside the Duncan Hospital, a PWS&D partner in India:

Gracious and Faithful God,
We thank you for your abundant blessings
and for the hands you have joined together in service.
With grateful hearts, we lift up PWS&D and all our partners
who walk alongside the Duncan Hospital,
enabling us to serve the poor, the sick and the marginalized in Bihar.
Lord, through their generosity and support,
we are strengthened to bring healing to the suffering,
empowerment to the vulnerable,
and hope to those in despair.
May every act of care, every word of kindness,
and every touch of compassion reflect your love and grace.
As we labour together,
let our service be a testimony to your goodness.
May all we do glorify your name,
so that through us, many may see your light
and know your unfailing love.
Unite us in purpose, sustain us in our mission
and bless this partnership for the flourishing of your people.
In Jesus' name, we pray.
Amen.



47

God of creation, we give thanks for PWS&D partners teaching conservation agriculture, which is helping farmers protect and revitalize life-giving soil and cultivate plentiful harvests. Bless their yields to help break the cycle of poverty. Amen.

48

O God of love, true source of peace,
make wars throughout the world to cease;
the wrath of sinful hearts restrain:
give peace, O God, give peace again.

Remember, Lord, your works of old,
the wonders that our forebears told;
remember not our sin's deep stain:
give peace, O God, give peace again.

Whom shall we trust but you, O God?
Where rest but on your faithful word?
None ever called on you in vain:
give peace, O God, give peace again.

Where saints and angels dwell above,
all hearts are knit in holy love;
oh bind us in that heavenly chain:
give peace, O God, give peace again.

Written by Henry Williams Baker. From *The Book of Praise*. Public Domain.

49

Loving God, we are grateful for the programs of PWS&D throughout the world and the partners through which they are carried out.

Thank you for the support of the many congregations across the country. It is a blessing that we can come together as one and make an impact. Amen.

Written by Barbara Waine, PWS&D Champion at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Nanaimo, BC.

50

Chiuta walusungu na wakutemwa tikulomba kuti chalo chiwe na mtende, chiwe chalo chambula masuzgo gha njala, chalo icho wanangwa wa wanthu wose ukuchindikika. Ndipo chitemwa chinu chambula mphaka chitipe nkhangono, ndipo urunji uwe ntchindamila ya vikaya vithu, Lusungu liwe ntchindamila yakulongozga machitiro ghithu. Amen.

Gracious and loving God, we pray for a world where peace prevails, where hunger is eradicated and where the rights of all are respected. May your boundless love bring strength to all. May justice be the foundation of our societies and compassion the guiding principle of our actions. Amen.

Written and translated from Tumbuka by Ekwendeni Hospital AIDS Programme, a PWS&D partner in Malawi.

51

Loving God, we celebrate in prayer the life skills training that orphans and vulnerable children are accessing, with the support of PWS&D, so that they may achieve their goals and dreams. Lord, you are to be praised. Amen.

52

We pray, O God, for farmers in Pakistan who work tirelessly to replenish their land as volatile weather due to climate change continues season after season. Would you help them as they seek to provide for the needs of their families. Strengthen their communities, as well, we pray. Amen.



प्यारो स्वर्गीय पिता,

हामी तपाईंको सामु कृतज्ञ हृदयले आउँछौं, INF नेपालमा सेवा गर्ने सबै कर्मचारीहरूलाई उचाल्छौं। हामी यस अभियानमा आफूलाई समर्पित गर्दा उनीहरूको स्वास्थ्य, शक्ति र कल्याणको लागि प्रार्थना गर्छौं।

हामी हाम्रो नेतृत्व टोलीको लागि तपाईंको ज्ञान बुद्धी र मार्गदर्शन पनि खोज्छौं र हाम्रा कोष साझेदारहरूको लागि प्रार्थना गर्दछौं, जसको अटल समर्थन र प्रार्थनाले यस कामलाई निरन्तरता दिन्छ।

प्रभु, तपाईंको प्रशस्त आशीर्वाद यस अभियानमा रहोस्, जसले हामीलाई प्रेम, करुणा र समर्पणका साथ नेपाली जनताको सेवा गर्दा मार्गदर्शन गरून्।

येशूको नाममा, हामी प्रार्थना गर्छौं,

आमेन।

Dear Heavenly Father,

We come before you with grateful hearts, lifting up all the staff serving in INF Nepal. We pray for their health, strength and well-being as they dedicate themselves to this mission.

We also seek your wisdom and guidance for our leadership team and extend our prayers for our funding partners, whose unwavering support and prayers sustain this work.

Lord, may your abundant blessings be upon this mission, guiding us as we serve the people of Nepal with love, compassion and dedication.

In Jesus' name, we pray.

Amen.

Translated from Nepali.

54

Come, let us worship God,
who gifted us with life and creation to sustain life.

We praise God for the wondrous creation.

Come, let us follow the Lord Jesus Christ,
who inspires us to hope and act for justice and righteousness.

**We give glory to God, who restores the groaning creation
and the marginalized.**

Come, let us move with the Holy Spirit,
striving to establish justice and produce the first fruits of hope.

We praise God for the abundant life that is assured to all creation.

Heavenly Triune God and Creator of all,
we gather here, made in the image of the Creator,

Who created in love.

We gather in the name of the Redeemer, our Saviour Jesus Christ,

Who reconciles all of creation.

We gather in the presence of the Life Giver, your Holy Spirit,

Who inspires new life and instills hope.

**Written by the World Council of Churches. From the *Season of Creation
Celebration Guide 2024.***



55

Righteous and compassionate God,
You created every woman and girl
with dignity, strength and purpose.
Yet many face discrimination, hardship and injustice.
We lift up to you the women
served through the Karuna Project,
that they may find hope, healing and opportunity.
Bless the hands that teach, train and uplift them.
May they be empowered with education, skills and confidence
to break barriers and build a future of equality and justice.
Be their shield in times of fear, their comfort in sorrow
and their guide toward a life of dignity and purpose.
Lord, let your light shine through this work,
bringing transformation, strength and lasting change.
May the Karuna Project continue to be a beacon of your love,
where every girl and woman knows her worth
and walks in freedom.
Amen.

Written by the Duncan Hospital, a PWS&D partner in India.

56

God of all creation, we praise you for the beauty and abundance
of your world. Yet, we know that many in this world do not have
access to material abundance. And so, we give you thanks for the
response of PWS&D and their partners as they work to bring about
equitable and just livelihoods for all.

We pray for those working on projects to support sustainable
agriculture and build resilience to climate change. May their efforts
be blessed and bear much fruit; may communities in countries
such as Malawi, Guatemala and Pakistan attain the food security
that is so necessary for abundant life.

Inspire us, we pray, to support PWS&D as they work to show
God's love in the world. Amen.

**Written by Grant and Femmy Birks, PWS&D Champions at Knox Presbyterian
Church in Waterloo, Ont.**

57

Pray alongside Women for Peace and Democracy, a PWS&D partner in Nepal:

Dear Lord, we thank you for blessing us with the ability to serve and uplift women and the marginalized. Grant us the courage to continue this mission with wisdom and compassion. May your divine energy continue to guide our efforts, remove obstacles and bring light to every life we touch. Amen.

Written by Shobha Shrestha.

58

Bondye, Papa nou ki nan syèl la,

Nou remèsye ou pou tout bon bagay ou fè pou nou. Nou remèsye ou paske ou bay pwojè PWS&D a opòtinite pou ede anpil fanm ansent ak nouvo manman nan peyi a. Nou mande ou beni tout efò ki fèt nan pwojè sa a, epi fè l sòti pi byen pase sa nou ka imajine. Nou mande ou gide tout moun ki enplike nan pwojè sa a pou yo aji ak sajès, renmen, ak devouman.

Bondye, nou priye espesyalman pou fanm ansent sa yo ki ap pase nan gwo defi. Nou mande ou pwoteje yo pandan tout peryòd gwosès yo, ba yo sante ak fòs pou yo fè fas ak nenpòt difikilte ki ka rive. Nou priye pou ou bay pwojè PWS&D kapasite pou ede yo jwenn swen medikal ki nesèsè, fòmasyon sou nitrisyon, ak sipò emosyonèl ki pral ede yo simonte nenpòt baryè fizik, sosyal, ak ekonomik yo ap fè fas ak yo.

Nou mande ou ede tout fanm sa yo santi lanmou ou, ki bay yo kouraj pou yo kontinye avanse malgre difikilte yo. Nou priye tou pou ou beni timoun yo, pou yo fèt an sante e pou yo grandi nan yon anviwònman ki gen lanmou ak swen.

Nou sezi pa pouvwa ou, Bondye, e nou mete tout sa nou ap fè nan pwojè sa a nan men ou. Se ou ki se sous la, e se ou menm ki ka pote sikse reyèl. Fè sa a sezi tout moun ki ap travay avèk ou nan pwojè sa a.

Nan non Jezi Kris nou priye,

Amèn.

Heavenly Father,

We thank you for all the good things you do for us. We thank you for the opportunity to help many pregnant women and new mothers in Haiti. We ask you to bless all the efforts made in this project and make it exceed our expectations. We ask you to guide everyone involved in this project to act with wisdom, love and dedication.

Lord, we especially pray for pregnant women who are facing great challenges. We ask you to protect them throughout their pregnancies, giving them health and strength to face any difficulties that may arise. We pray that the PWS&D project would help them access the necessary medical care, nutrition education and emotional support that will help them overcome any physical, social or economic barriers.

We ask you to help the women involved in the project feel your love, which will give them courage to continue forward despite their challenges. We also pray for you to bless their children, so that they may be born healthy and grow up in an environment full of love and care.

We are amazed by your power, Lord, and we place all that we do in this project into your hands. You are the source, and only you can bring real success. May this project surprise all those working with you in it.

In Jesus Christ's name we pray,
Amen.

Written and translated from Haitian Creole by C-NEW-C, a PWS&D partner in Haiti.

59

We pray for the millions of people facing emergency levels of hunger and for PWS&D and our partners responding to this critical situation. Amen.

60

God of justice and peace, we pray for our world, where governments often promote their agendas through violence, causing suffering for so many. We give thanks for organizations that work to bring comfort and aid. We pray for safety for their workers and the success of their programs. Your kingdom come. Amen.

Written by Robert Griffiths, PWS&D Champion at Hartsville Presbyterian Church in Kinkora, PE.

61

Teach us, good Lord,
to serve you as you deserve;
to give and not to count the cost;
to fight and not to heed the wounds;
to toil and not to seek for rest;
to labour and not to ask for any reward,
except for that of knowing that we do your will;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Written by Ignatius of Loyola. From *The Book of Praise*. Public Domain.

62

Dear God, we pray for internally displaced people in South Sudan, who are receiving emergency food aid to help meet their basic needs. Amen.



स्वर्गीय पिता,

हामी तपाईंको अटल प्रेम र कृपालाई लिएर आभारी छौं। हाम्रो समुदाय र यहाँका मानिसहरूको आशिक्षामय जीवनका लागि धन्यवाद। हामी स्वाबलम्बण समूहहरू लाई तपाईंको आशिष् मिलास् भनी प्रार्थना गछौं। यी समूहहरू वृद्धि होऊन्, समृद्ध बनून्, आर्थिक स्थायित्व प्राप्त गरून् र आफ्ना परिवार तथा समुदायका लागि स्थायी लाभ पुर्याउन सकून्।

हे प्रभु, हामी किसानहरू र स्वाबलम्बण समूहहरूको लागि पनि प्रार्थना गछौं, कि उनीहरू निरन्तर फस्टाउँदै जाऊन्। उनीहरूलाई आवश्यक स्रोतसाधन, बुद्धि, र सहयोग प्रदान गरिदिनुहोस्, जसले गर्दा उनीहरू सफल हुन सकून्। उनीहरूले बलियो, आत्मनिर्भर समुदाय निर्माण गरून्, जसले चुनौतीहरू पार गर्न सकून् र दिगोपन तथा आशाले भरिएको भविष्य सिर्जना गर्न सकून्।

आमेन।

Heavenly Father,

We are grateful for your unwavering love and kindness. Thank you for the gift of our community and the lives of its people. We lift up self-help groups in prayer, asking for your blessing upon them. May they achieve economic stability and bring lasting benefits to their families and communities.

Lord, we also pray for the farmers involved in self-help groups, that they may continue to flourish. Grant them access to the resources, wisdom and support that they need to thrive. May they build strong, self-reliant communities, prepared to overcome challenges and create a future of sustainability and hope.

Amen.

Written and translated from Nepali by International Nepal Fellowship, a PWS&D partner in Nepal.

64

Loving God, we celebrate PWS&D-supported safe motherhood committees in Malawi which are teaching people about reproductive health and rights, as well as safe motherhood practices. With support from PWS&D, they help ensure women receive life-saving pre- and postnatal care. We are so grateful for the impact of these groups of volunteers and entrust their work to you in prayer. Amen.

65

Dear Lord,

We come before you with hearts burdened for the many in India who are suffering from hunger and malnutrition, especially mothers and children.

You are the God who provides and sustains all life and yet so many are hungry and deprived of basic nourishment. Lord, we ask for your mercy and intervention.

We pray that you will provide for those who are hungry. Give them healthy and nutritious food and adequate care. Strengthen the mothers who sacrifice for their children and restore the health of the little ones whose bodies are fragile, for they are precious in your sight.

Bless the efforts of PWS&D and other organizations and individuals who are working tirelessly to combat hunger and improve health for marginalized communities.

In your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

Written by Church of North India-Synodical Board of Social Services, a PWS&D partner in India.

In many places around the world, PWS&D and its partners work with people who practice other Abrahamic religions. This prayer was written by Taj Mohammad, from the Sunni (Muslim) community in Nangarhar, Afghanistan.

زه د نړۍ، په ځانگړي ډول د هغو جنگ خپلو او ناورين و هلو خلكو لپاره دعا كوم چې په افغانستان كې له سختو شرايطو سره مخ دي، چې الله تعالى يې د فقر، لوري او طبيعي افاتو له خطرونو څخه په امن كې وساتي.

زه دعا كوم چې الله تعالى هغه څوك چې په فقر كې ژوند كوي، له بېوزلۍ وباسي، او څوك چې لوړه نېروي، ماره كړي. مريضانو ته شفا ورکړي، هغوی ته روغتیا، قوت، او آرام وپېښي.

همداراز، زه دعا كوم د هغو خيريه ټولنو او بشري سازمانونو كاركونكو لپاره چې د افغانستان د خلكو لاسنيوي كوي، په ځانگړي ډول په سختو شرايطو كې. الله تعالى دي دوى ته توفيق ورکړي، د دوى نيك عملونه قبول كړي، او د دوى په كارونو كې برکت واچوي، ترڅو هغوى وكولاى شي د لا زياتو اړمنو خلكو لاسنيوى وكړي.

آمين

I pray for the people of the world, especially those in Afghanistan who have suffered from war and disasters. May Allah (SWT) protect them from the dangers of poverty, hunger and natural calamities.

I pray that Allah grants prosperity to those living in poverty and provides food and sustenance to those suffering from hunger. May Allah make the sick healthy and well, and may they be blessed with health, strength and peace.

Furthermore, I pray for humanitarian organizations and charity workers who have supported the people of Afghanistan, especially during difficult times. May Allah grant them success, accept their good deeds, and bless their efforts so that they can continue to help even more people in need. Ameen!

67

Merciful God,

We give thanks for all that you have provided us. Help us to be good stewards of the earth and its resources. We pray for those who are suffering from the effects of climate change. May the work being done by PWS&D around the world bring hope and justice to those in need. Amen.

Written by Thomas Hillier and Victoria Banfield, PWS&D Champions at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Markham, Ont.

68

God of all wisdom and knowledge,
we pray for your guidance of the PWS&D committee.
Inspire its discussions and decisions,
leading to greater impact and support for those in need. Amen.

69

God of the universe, we pray for all people with disabilities who are faced with the quagmire of poverty, discrimination and social exclusion across the world. We pray especially for those in Ghana who are receiving life-changing support through the Garu Community Based Rehabilitation Centre and ask that you bless and sustain them to your own glory. Amen.

Written by Garu Community Based Rehabilitation Centre of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana.



70

Loving God, we are thankful for the humanitarian assistance provided by PWS&D and its networks and coalitions working in Gaza. Be with the brave souls that work in mobile clinics to ease the pain and suffering, both physical and mental, of people affected by the increasingly dire conditions. Uphold the people of Gaza as they struggle simply to survive. May they feel your comforting hands. Amen.

Written by Patricia Polowick, PWS&D Champion at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Saskatoon, Sask.

71

God,
You are the source of human dignity,
and it is in your image that we are created.
Pour out on us the spirit of love and compassion.
Enable us to reverence each person,
to reach out to anyone in need,
to value and appreciate those who differ from us,
to share the resources of our nation,
to receive the gifts offered to us by people from other cultures.
Grant that we may always promote the justice and acceptance that ensures lasting peace and racial harmony.
Help us to remember that we are one world and one family.
Amen.

Written by the World Council of Churches.

72

Source of all wisdom and knowledge, we thank you for the tuition support that helps students at the Neno Girls Secondary School in Malawi achieve their dreams of continuing their education after primary school. Amen.

73

God of all comfort, bring peace to our hearts,
guide our hands to be givers and our feet to walk where you lead.
Open our eyes to see need close by and far away.
Sharpen our ears to hear spoken and unspoken words of despair.
Stir our hearts to be thoroughways of your peace and love
to all whom our senses bring close.
Amen.

**Written by Patricia Grainger, PWS&D Champion at St. Andrew's
Presbyterian Church in Kars, Ont.**

74

O God,
we know that you hear the cause of those in need
and execute justice for the poor.
We pray for support for those who are marginalized.
Inspire us to work and advocate for
a more sustainable, compassionate and just world.

Amen.

75

Your presence, Lord, is the sacred place where we find
rest, strength and instruction for our journey in this world.

**May every person find a place in your house, O God,
a place where they are dignified and valued with love.**

May Jesus come to overturn the tables and unleash
your prophetic voice so that the place of your presence
may be honoured.

**As temples of your Spirit, purify us, O God, removing all
corruption and returning us to sweet divine communion.**

Amen.

**From *A Living Easter*, published by the Protestant Center for Pastoral Studies
in Central America, a PWS&D partner in Guatemala.**

What's Next?

Now that you have lifted a wide variety of prayers for the work of PWS&D and our partners up to God, what comes next? A great place to start is learning more about the programs you have prayed for by visiting WeRespond.ca, and by signing up for PWS&D's e-newsletter.

Did you know? PWS&D Champions meet every month to pray for the work of PWS&D. Learn more about this opportunity and get involved at WeRespond.ca/Be-A-Champion.

- 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.
- 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. 293 or by email at pwsd@presbyterian.ca to book a speaker today!
- Order bookmarks for your congregation which they can place in their Bibles as a reminder to keep the work of PWS&D in prayer.
- Get the Prayer Partnership resource, available quarterly at presbyterian.ca/worship, and continue celebrating the mission and ministry of the church in Canada and around the world.

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. You can also designate your support for PWS&D through offerings at your local congregation.



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