

Prayers for Ukraine

In sorrow and pain, we hold before you the situation unfolding in Ukraine.
For those caught in the conflict;
For those watching on in horror;
For those reliving the trauma of their past;
Trusting in your goodness and love, Lord God, we cry out to you.

For those who flee, leaving homes and lives
All **We cry out to you, O Lord.**

For those who are gripped with terror and fear
All **We cry out to you, O Lord.**

For cities surrounded and under fire
All **We cry out to you, O Lord**

For those who shelter in bathrooms and basements
All **We cry out to you, O Lord.**

For those who fear they must take up arms
All **We cry out to you, O Lord.**

For civilians turned soldiers who fight for their homes
All **We cry out to you, O Lord**

For those under orders they don't understand
All **We cry out to you, O Lord**

For those who are wounded and killed in conflict
All **We cry out to you, O Lord.**

With those who mourn and those who weep
All **We cry out to you, O Lord.**

Silence is kept.

We pray with the words of Ukrainian songwriter Andriy Hryfel

I long for you as a baby longs for mother,
As the dry land longs for the rain, I long for You.
I look at you when I am exhausted in the struggle,
I pray to You, because I believe my victory is in You,
I stand on the Word, this world will not overcome Your loveⁱ

God of peace and justice,
we pray your transforming love would be poured out on our troubled world.
In hope and expectation we pray your peace would come.

Through the work of negotiators, diplomats and politicians

All **We pray your peace would come.**

Through protests and petitions

All **We pray your peace would come.**

Through pressure and sanctions

All **We pray your peace would come.**

In city streets where violence rages

All **We pray your peace would come.**

In shattered homes and shelled suburbs

All **We pray your peace would come.**

In the hearts of those who wage war

All **We pray your peace would come.**

Where greed and pride drive our actions

All **We pray your peace would come.**

Where selfish ambition overrules love and compassion

All **We pray your peace would come.**

A Prayer for Ukraine

God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.
We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.
Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.
Amen

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York.

Prayers prepared by Andy Stinson

ⁱ <https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2022/february-web-only/ukrainian-christians-church-worship-songs-war-and-peace.html>