

2022

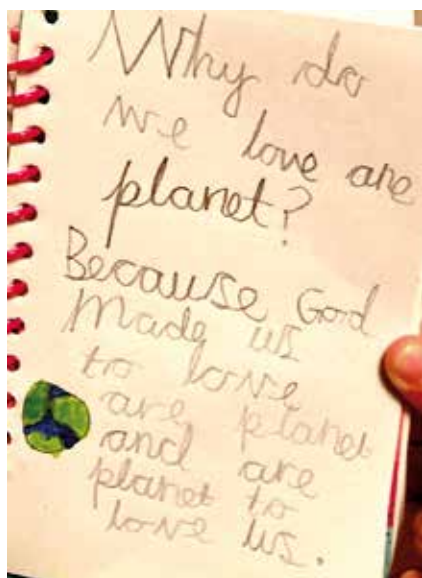
A Commitment for Life resource

These prayers can be used for church websites, magazines and displays to help people focus on generosity of mind and spirit.

Prayers by Children and Young People for Climate From Christ Church URC, Petts Wood



Ivy 6yrs old



Anna 14yrs old

Dear Father God,
We pray that you protect our children and keep them safe so they can grow healthy in mind and body. Please give them strength and wisdom to save our planet. Please help them to grow in their faith of you and help us to change our ways for a healthier, more considerate and kinder future.
We pray for our world leaders, that you guide them to make good decisions for the future of our children and our planet.
Amen.

Nathanial 8yrs old

Dear God,
Thank you for this lovely world.
We are very sorry for not taking care of it.
We will make it a better place.
Amen.

Jasmine 13yrs old

Dear God, we are sorry for all the wrong we have done, especially destroying the amazing planet you created for us. You gave us a home and we are mistreating it. Please forgive us. As individuals we will try our hardest to protect and preserve Earth so all generations after us will be able to enjoy all the amazing things you have given us. Amen.

Prayer for Fairtrade

Dr Mark Dawson (Fairtrade Yorkshire)

All loving God of justice and mercy,
move your Holy Spirit within us:
To consider those who work to produce the goods that we enjoy, but who are not justly rewarded for their labour.
To have care for the producers who struggle to find the resources to feed their families, to send their children to school, or to live safely and comfortably.
To be concerned about the injustice which allows some people to amass great wealth, whilst others lack the basic needs of life.



Prayer for Fairtrade continued ...

To *devote time* to think about the way in which we shop.

To *support* those traders and businesses who treat people fairly.

To *witness* to Your loving care for creation in the daily decisions that we make.

And to *love you* by doing everything we can to treat all people with respect.

We pray in the name of your Son, that we too will stand with the invisible, the forgotten and the marginalised and share in the heavenly kingdom that is theirs. Amen.

Prayer for Christian Aid

Dionne Gravesande (Christian Aid)

**In the midst of silence words are not spoken,
No translations required.**

In the depth of silence, I am called to listen.

**Listen to your heartbeat, and the blowing of
your wind.**

**Listen to the movement and diversity of the
Spirit.**

Be still, says the Lord and know that I am God.

Listen to the cry of the voiceless.

Listen to the poor and excluded.

Listen to the hungry and oppressed.

Listen to the widows and her children.

Be swift to hear and slow to speak.

You are called to love and serve all humanity.

You are called to stand with the lost and broken.

**You are called to establish God's values
throughout the earth.**

Spirit of God, breathe on us again,

That we might hear, see and build a shared life.

**Mould us and open us up to new dreams and
new hopes,**

A new life in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prayer for Global Justice Now

Heidi Chow (Global Justice Now / Jubilee Debt Campaign)

Dear God, thank you that economic and social justice are at the heart of who you are and that you stand on the side of those who are oppressed and marginalised. We pray for those on the frontlines of global injustice – healthcare workers and vulnerable people who are struggling to access vaccines in the global south, those who have lost their homes and livelihoods because of the climate crisis, countries that are struggling to fund healthcare because of crippling debt to international banks, black communities and people of colour who are on the sharp end of racial injustice, and communities that are fighting trade deals that prioritise corporate interests over human rights and public services. We pray for victories for communities and campaigners in the fight for a people's vaccine, for climate justice, for debt justice and for trade justice. We pray that solidarity, peace and justice will prevail. In Jesus name, Amen.

Prayer for Bangladesh

Lindsay Cross (Jesmond URC)

Living, loving God,

We pray for the people of Bangladesh who continue to face appalling hardship in the face of poverty, disease and extreme climate events. Grant us the courage to listen to their pain and look at their suffering instead of looking away. We pray that the rich countries of the world will respond with compassion and generosity to the requests for medical equipment and vaccines, and act now to address the causes of climate change which have such devastating consequences for the poor and dispossessed.

We thank you for the work being carried out in transformational and empowering local projects and pray for love, courage, and daily renewal for all those serving throughout the country. Help us to keep hope alive in your world today. Amen.

Prayer for Central America: Nicaragua, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras

*Aftab Alexander Mughal (Westbury Gardens
URC, Blackburn)*

Gracious God, we pray for a prosperous life for all people in Central American countries. Creator of life, your people suffer due to poverty, inequality, environmental destruction, drug trafficking, corruption, natural disasters, and gang power. Due to the challenging situation, the people of that region face a migration crisis as well. Many look for help even for their basic needs: food, water, and shelter. The Covid pandemic has multiplied their pain and anguish.

Creator of the world, your children look to you. You are their hope and strength, and they believe in you as you walk with them in all their sufferings. And they know you love them. Give them strength to seek an end to their miseries.

We are thankful for all those individuals, organisations and churches that have been helping your people towards a sustained life. Please, God, bless them abundantly.

We pray that the people should live in peace with their families and communities without the threats which they face now. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our saviour. Amen.

Prayer for Zimbabwe

*Maud M Marengereke (Anglican Relief and
Development in Zimbabwe – ARDeZ)*

Dear Lord, we thank you for watching over us as we go through the Covid-19 era. As each day passes, we pray that you grant us wisdom to discover ways of overcoming the pandemic. Guide parents as they strive to look after their families in providing for food and online learning gadgets. Lord, we pray for all the youths in our country that they may desist from drug abuse and any forms of unprotected sexual engagements. Protect all women, and especially young girls, from gender-based violence, which has become rampant in our communities. Plant in every Zimbabwean



Prayer for the legacy we leave behind

Kerry McMenamin (Christian Aid)

Generous God, your blessings in our lifetime are immeasurable. We are humbled and grateful. We thank you for material gifts of a safe home, food to eat and clothes to wear. We thank you for your beautiful creation, with life growing all around us. We thank you for the love of friends and family who are with us for all our precious moments. When we look ahead to the day when you will eventually take us home, let us not be afraid or feel sad for the things that we will leave behind. Let us rejoice in the lasting legacy that we can pass on to others through our values, our talents, and our generosity with your blessings. We know that everything we have is yours and so what we leave behind matters, to our family, our church, and our wider global neighbours. Give us a generous heart so that we may plant seeds of your love to flourish for generations to come. Amen.

citizen the spirit of love, peace, and tolerance. Guide all those in authority in this country to carry out their day-to-day tasks with humility, love, and diligence. We ask all this through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

Prayer for Healthcare for the World

Charles Jolly

Life-giving God,
We pray for a new Earth where individuals
matter more than profits;
where women and children are empowered;
where special need, ill-health, other ability
or disadvantage is no bar to a fulfilling life;
where vested interests do not prevent anyone
from accessing medical treatment.
We ask for clean water, decent sanitation, living
space and health education for all people,
especially those forced to crowd together in
vast conurbations,
Above all, we thank you for ordinary people
making change happen:
Village Health Workers in Zimbabwe teaching
Covid-19 precautions to remote communities;
The Shisamondnay Forum in Bangladesh,
promoting healthy vegetables for children
to eat;
UNES in Central America working with local
health teams to tackle environmental health
problems.
The Palestinian Agricultural Development
Association and YMCA rehabilitation
programme for people injured in conflict.
And for every unsung hero whose love, your
love, overflows into selfless action.
For the sake of Jesus Christ who came to heal
this suffering world. Amen.

Prayer for Global Economic Justice

Robert Jordan

God of abundant love, grace, life. We turn to you in
anger and lament. The state of the world lacks
so much; economic injustice steals life –
human, environmental, even space.

We know the richer get (much) richer,
while the poor fall even more
into poverty.

BUT it is not that there are
poor nations – there are
impoverished nations;
or that there are

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Commitment
for Life

Working with Christian Aid and
the World Development Movement

Prayer for Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Diana Paulding

Creator God, God of Palestine, God of Israel.
When the Jubilee comes, all will be free, all will
be forgiven, all will be returned. Bring a new
jubilee to your Holy Land, Lord.

Let there be freedom for those who queue at
checkpoints in the West Bank, freedom for those
imprisoned for refusing military conscription,
freedom for those blockaded in Gaza.

Let there be forgiveness for longstanding
tensions between neighbours, forgiveness for
acts that stem from fear instead of love, and we
ask for forgiveness for our own country's history
in dividing the Holy Land.

Let refugees return to their homes, let olive trees
be returned to their farmers, let the persecuted
return to a place of safety.

Let our call for justice and peace be the trumpet
call that heralds the Land's jubilee. Amen.

poor people – they are impoverished
people...because the global economic
system is based on injustice and lies
and stealing.

We turn to YOU – when you said “it is
good” you meant it! Natural resources, sea
resources, human creativity, and talents...
there was so much there, and in living
together this was multiplied and life was
filled with laughter, dance, hope, empathy.
Then sisters and brothers were enslaved,
nature was exploited, air was poisoned,
and wealth was worshiped as deity and
accumulation became the norm: those who
have *are*; those who don't have are *not*.
Creator, you continue to remind us that
your way is best, and until it becomes our
way there will be injustice.

In hope we seek you: may your love inspire
us to love and grow together in respect.
Amen.

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