## Prayer for a lasting and just peace in Gaza

a Prayer by
Commitment for Life

Leader: God of peace, how long, O Lord, how long?

People: We cry out to you from a world still

aching for justice.

Leader: We give thanks for the lessening of gunfire

and the stillness of the skies over Gaza.

People: You are near to the broken-hearted and

save the crushed in spirit. (Psalm 34:18)

Leader: You hear the cries beneath the rubble, and hold the broken, starved, and displaced in your

heart.

People: Yet we dare not call this silence true

peace.

Leader: You teach us, Lord, that peace is not the absence of war, but the presence of justice, the sheltering of all life, and the mending of what has been torn asunder.

People: Let your justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

(Amos 5:24)

Leader: Guard us from false assurances, O God, from leaders who declare "peace, peace," when there is no real peace. (*Jeremiah 6:14*)

People: Give courage to those who speak truth, and power to those who work for what is right.

Leader: Stir the hearts of those in power to listen to the wounded, to reckon with wrongs done, and to labour for a just and lasting peace for all.

People: May swords be beaten into ploughshares and tears into dancing. (Isaiah 2:4)

Leader: Come, O Prince of Peace.

People: Make it real. Make it last. Make it just.

Amen.







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