

Prayer Focus

November 2017

November is the time for remembrance, forgiveness and hope for peace. Consider this prayer and the prayer overleaf and use them in your own prayers for this month.

This Is My Hope

This is my song, O God of all nations;

a song of peace for lands afar, and mine.

This is my hope, the country where my heart is;

this is my hope, my dream, my shrine.

But other hearts in other lands are beating
with hopes and dreams that are the same as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,

the sunlight beams on clover leaves and pine;

but other lands have sunlight too, and clover,

and other skies are just as blue as mine.

O hear my prayer, thou God of all the nations,

a prayer of peace for other lands and mine.

(Author Unknown)

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An Instrument of Your Peace

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is discord, union;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved, as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

(A prayer attributed to St Francis of Assisi)

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Altrincham United Reformed Church

www.altrinchamurc.org.uk

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In the month in which we celebrate Harvest and 'Commitment for Life' let us think of the people in our own country and those all around the world:

Creator God and Loving Father,
We thank you for all you have given
and all that is safely gathered in –
here today and all around the world;
for harvested grain and ripe, juicy fruit,
for tins and packets and all good, nutritious food.

Creator God and Loving Father,
We thank you for everyone you have made
and all who are safely gathered in homes and churches –
here today and all around the world;
for old and young, boys and girls, for those we love
and those we do not know.

Creator God and Loving Father,
We thank you for giving us so abundantly that we can help to
safely gather in those who are not yet enjoying a rich harvest –
by generously sharing ours, as you always intended,
with those who are hungry
or have been forced to flee their homes.

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God can use our love to change the world.

By fighting for better conditions we can,
to a certain extent, change the world.
We can throw our pebble into the pond and be confident
that its ever widening circle will reach around the world.

There is nothing we can do but love,
and, Dear God, please enlarge our hearts to love each other,
to love our neighbour,
to love our enemy as our friend.

God of justice, call us to account.
Inspire us, so that we may cast off our complacency and apathy
and joining hands with people at home and abroad
we may make a stand for justice and righteousness
for all who dwell on the earth.
Amen

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