

September

God of Love,
we pray for life:
for the life of your whole creation,
bursting with goodness, yet torn apart by greed.
May it be healed.

We pray for life:
for Commitment for Life and their partners,
working to bring the joy of living back to
people facing situations we can hardly imagine.
May they be strengthened.

We pray for life:
for the lives of those living in Bangladesh, Central
America, Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory,
and Zimbabwe.
May your justice come.

We pray for life:
for the life in us with which we can help others to live.
May we work, and give, and pray, until your kingdom comes.

We pray for life:
for you are the Lord of Life,
who promised abundant life to those who follow you,
and sent the Spirit to guide our lives.

In your hands we place our lives, and those of all your people,
Amen.

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October

Dear Lord

When we feel there is no point to our efforts to
change the world for the better, because we are
so few, help us to remember the African proverb
'if you think you are too small to make a difference,
try sleeping with a mosquito' and give us the
courage and the strength to keep going.

Amen

© Jean Headley

November

Lover-of-justice-and-peace, shape our
consciences and hearts according to your
way of just, peaceful and loving lives. Move
us beyond fear to speak with compassionate
courage and to act with both conviction
and humility. Give us ears, eyes, hearts and
voices to discern, respond and embody
hope through our actions, in private and in
public. Bless us with wholeness, and through
your Spirit continue to sustain us in the face
of powerful forces bent on denying life.
In the name of the one who offers abundant
life for all. Amen

© Michael Jagessar



December

Lord of all,
You gave your life for us,
broken on a tree.
We ask for no more
that we might live.

Now you ask us to give;
all of our being
to show your love.
Our all, for all.

You demand our action
against injustice.
Campaigning,
lobbying those in authority,
praying for life.

If this is all you ask of me,
I count myself blessed.
Others have given their all
to see justice done.

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Prayer Partners

2016

Prayer Partners 2016 is a collection of prayers
from people within Commitment for Life churches,
ministers and partners. Use the prayers for praying
alone or in a group. They may be used on church
websites, magazines, and for displays provided
credit is given to the writer and Commitment for Life.

January

We pray for:
God whose love is seen in justice.
Greed cuts down the trees that breathe life,
Waters rise; oceans warm, homes are lost to
violent storms
Let me speak, of change.

Violence stalks the alleyways of San Salvador,
Thirst haunts the Palestinian hillside,
Arrogance walks tall in Harare,
Peace can only come with justice.
Let me speak of change.

Hate, opens wounds, recalls a history of pain
and separation.
Anger, brings retribution, revenge and slaughter,
God whose love is seen in justice
Let me speak of change.

Sticks and stones, and broken bones,
Lead the way to fist shaking brawls,
God whose love is seen in justice,
Let me speak of change.

Above the storms, of life we share,
Another's hopes and deep despair,
Your still small voice can still be heard,
Your presence in a living word.
We need not seek for here you are,
Beside the ones who bear life's scars,
God whose love is seen in justice,
Let me speak of change.

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A Commitment for Life resource



February

Prayer of commitment

Lift up our hearts
To give thanks and praise
To respond to your call
To live out the good news
And to be salt and light in the world

**All: So that together, we can say;
Hallowed be your name**

Give us the courage
To pursue peace
To act for justice
To work for freedom
And to prepare the way of God

**All: So that together, we can say;
Your kingdom come, Your will be done,
on earth as in heaven**

Challenge and inspire us
To live simply
To share what we have
To offer hospitality

... continue overleaf

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Working with Christian Aid and the World Development Movement



... continued

And to welcome strangers
All: So that together, we can say;
Give us today our daily bread

Give us the wisdom
To be open to questions
To recognise our failings and our gifts
To seek unity
And to rejoice in your image in others
All: So that together, we can say;
Forgive us our sins

As we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil.
May we know the love of God,
Grow in the likeness of Christ
And be open to the Spirit
All: For yours is the Kingdom, the power
and the glory
Now and forever more. Amen

© Rosie Venner

April

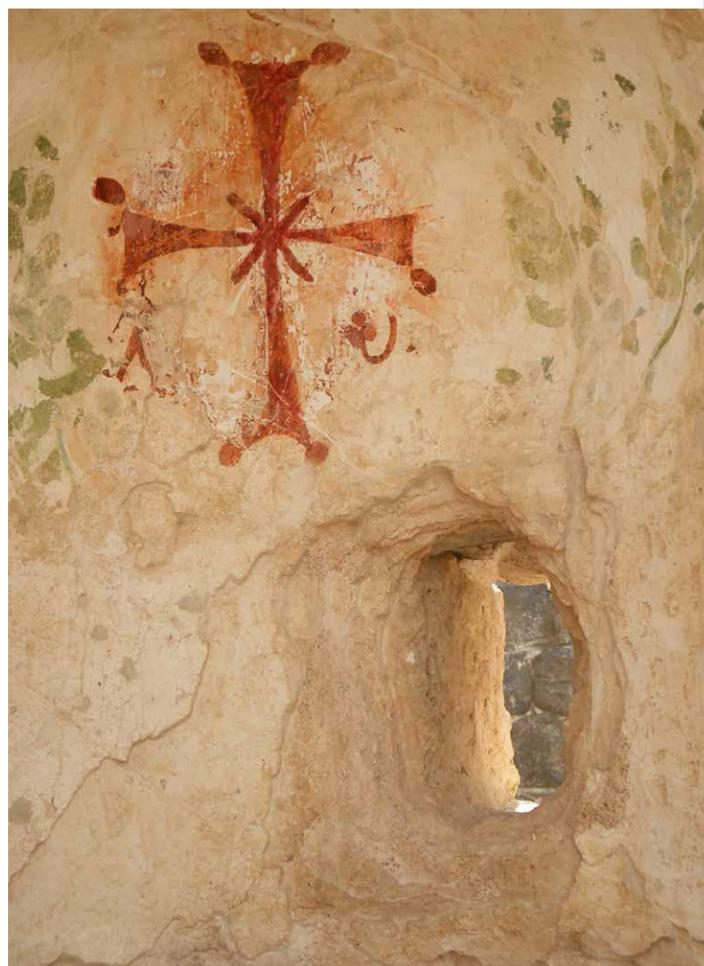
Sadness and grief
Cannot be brief
It lasts forever
Forgiven? Never?

But forgiveness is a need
If peace is to succeed
A new start, a new life
A reconciliation
Of hearts and minds

To be 'other'
Is to see another
As enemy, as foe
From this nothing can grow

Peace, perfect peace
Is not the absence of war
But a recognition of the other
So that we might all live together.

© Theresa Mansbridge



May

We never seem to have enough time
Where does it go?
How can such a precious commodity slip so
swiftly through our fingers?
Time to work,
Time to play,
Time to laugh,
Time to love.
We fall between the moments that separate
the tick from the tock.
We leak time like air from a flat tyre.
One moment there and then it's gone
and we have so much to do,
so much life to live,
and every activity takes a few more of those
priceless seconds.
Those golden minutes,
those sparkling, blissful hours.
We're racing headlong into eternity.

Help us Lord to still our footsteps.
Take the time to consider what's important.
Before I finish speaking another child will die as
a direct result of poverty.
Help me to put the chaos of my life into perspective,
Help me to find time to be still and seek your will,
Help me, Lord, to stand beside those who leak
blood and sweat and tears
as time pours out of them like an ocean.
For time is precious
and should be used wisely

Amen

© C Mead

June

Loving Lord,

I pray for the people living with oppression that
is ruining their lives.

I pray especially for the children who have known
only war, homelessness and abuse of freedom.

Lay your hands on those who seek to do wrong,
that they may cease the global harm they cause.

I pray this in your name

© Bea Jones

July

Don't make me weep, then speak of justice
Tie my hands and expect me to thrive,
Cover my wounds with sack cloth and ashes,
Park your second hand car on my drive.
Ensure my poverty to double your wealth.
And never speak of change.

Cover your eyes as my land is ravaged.
Frackers, trackers, coal mines or land mines
Water your garden and let my thirst rise,
Hopes dashed by democracy misused by
the powerful.

Tear down my trees, no cedars in Lebanon,
Bulldoze my house; build a wall in its place,
Uproot my olive trees; rub out the green line,
Remind me, remind me the twentieth time
I do not count, my value is lost.
Don't speak of change without counting the cost.

Stand if you will, stand here with me,
My brothers and sisters, let new hope arise,
When wealth is replaced as life's greatest prize,
Bring justice, bring peace, let the love of God reign
It refreshes the desert, it eases life's pain
Stand together for justice, work together for change,
Your speaking, your listening, is all the worlds gain.

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August

A Prayer for Peace in Life

Hear me Jesus. When
we sit here in silent
meditation, bring your
power for peace to
all the Politicians and
Tribal Heads of the
warring tribes and
Nations in the Middle East.
Show them that envy and greed lead to permanent
destruction and that history shows that there are
no winners.
Be you known as a follower of Isaiah, a Holy
Prophet, or The Son of God; bring your Peace to
the Arabic Countries.



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