



STEWARDS OF OUR EARTH All of God's Creation

Light a Candle and Pray for Peace in Ukraine

The Sisters of St. Joseph (Mercy by the Sea Retreat and Conference Center) offer this prayer for our own prayer space. (Colleen Dauerbach, SSJ Justice, 3/14/22)

“May your candle be a symbol, not only of your individual prayer, but also of our common prayer for a resolution to the war between Ukraine and Russia. For a resolution and renunciation of the use of armed forces in this region, for serious negotiations, not only in the hope of resolving this war, but also to work toward lasting peace.

May the light of our candles burning in the darkness remind us of the light of God's love, and the power of Love to illuminate even the deepest darkness of hatred, mistrust, and fear. May we believe in this light, take comfort and strength from it, believing deeply in God's faithfulness and love.

Breath Prayer: Sit quietly for a few moments, breathe slowly... Take a breath, breathe out anxiety, and breathe in peace... Breathe out fear and breathe in trust... Breathe out resentment and breathe in joy... Breathe out hate and breathe in Love... Breathe out worry and breathe in the calmness of God's presence becoming fully present to this moment, this time of prayer, to your Christ-centered self....

Power of Prayer: God of faithfulness, we come to You troubled by the war in Ukraine. We are filled with anxieties and questions. What change are we able to effect by our prayer before You, by our words, by our deeds? What can we do to bring peace to our planet?

God, we need **Your grace** to settle and redirect our hearts. We need **Your hope** to rekindle and sustain our passion for justice. We need **Your wisdom** that we might recognize anew Your presence dwelling within us, calling us to live as people of light and hope rather than of darkness and fear.

Be with us. Help us to truly believe, not only in Your abiding presence within and among us, but in the power of our prayer to move mountains. Help us, O Beloved, to build a world where people of every nation form community, where all co-exist in peace, gratitude, and love. All this we ask in the name of You, Our Creator, who creates peace in our hearts...”

“We pray for NATO land and air forces, knowing that means people, and we pray for Germany and Poland as they open borders to fleeing refugees. God, we have studied war for so long, let it be no more, no more. Teach us a new peacemaking, guiding the leaders of nations, and holding gently in your heart the many who live and die because of their decisions, for we pray in the name of Jesus who wept for our great need of the things that make for peace. Amen.”

Prayer for Ukraine Under Invasion, written by Rev. Maren Tirabassi

Music from Ukraine

"**Creator of Heaven and Earth**" was recorded by the Peace for Ukraine media project, a collaboration of various young singers and musicians in Ukraine to glorify God and draw attention of the worldwide community to the ongoing crisis in Ukraine.

Listen here: <https://youtu.be/LQdWXMxn-FY>