

Those who attended our Wednesday Morning Prayer service during the season of Pentecost in 2018 will recognize this litany as the one we used for that service. I have not changed any of these prayers, because they continue to speak to the heart of those things that either heal or harm humanity. As Christ's followers, we continually pray 'for justice and peace and respect for the dignity of every human being;' yet, there are moments when we must humbly admit before God that we are not even certain of the immediate tasks this calls us to.

Join us in praying these prayers daily for the next week. The time has come to stop believing that we do not have time for such things in the busyness of our days. It is clear that we are in the midst of days when God is calling us to realign our priorities and seek His healing for our nation, our cities, our communities and our homes.

May our God bless us with grace and wisdom and courage sufficient for this time.

Love and blessings to all, Rev. Linda Suzanne +

#### A Litany for Peace and Social Justice

In baptism, we promise to "seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves and to strive for justice and peace, and respect the dignity of every human being" (BCP p.305). Let us now honor those vows and pray for our nation and for the needs of others throughout the world.

We pray for continued blessings on all peacemakers, on leaders who value peace, and on everyone who promotes nonviolent solutions to conflict. We pray for a speedy end to all violence and warfare around the world.

God of peace and gentleness,  
*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for the strength of heart and mind to look beyond ourselves and address the needs of our brothers and sisters throughout the world; for the rural and urban poor; for the rebuilding of our communities; and for an end to the cycles of violence that threaten our future.

God of generosity and compassion,  
*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for all nations, that they may live in unity, peace, and concord; and that all people may know justice and enjoy the perfect freedom that only God can give.

God of liberty and freedom,  
*Hear our prayer.*

We pray that the Holy Spirit may embrace the most vulnerable members of our society; we pray also for an end to the growing disparity between the rich and poor; and for the grace and courage to strive for economic justice.

God of all gifts and blessings,  
*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for an end to prejudice throughout our country and the world; that we will respect all people as precious children of God; and that all forms of discrimination will be forever banished from our hearts, our society and our laws.

God of fellowship and equality,  
*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for a reverence of creation; that we will have the tools and the will to conserve it; that we will use its bountiful resources in the service of others; and that we will become better stewards of all that has been entrusted to us.

God of nature and the universe,  
*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for all immigrants, refugees, and pilgrims from around the world, that they may find a place of welcome and rest, and be treated with fairness, dignity, and respect.

God of outcasts and wanderers,  
*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for the sick, the aged and the infirm; for those with physical or mental disabilities; that all may have access to proper health care; and that God's loving embrace may be felt by all who suffer.

God of comfort and healing,  
*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for all prisoners and captives; that a spirit of forgiveness may replace vengeance and retribution; and that we, with all the destitute, lonely, and oppressed, may be restored to the fullness of God's grace.

God of absolution and mercy,  
*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for all children and families, and particularly for the orphaned, neglected, abused, and those who live in fear of violence or disease; that they may be relieved and protected.

God of children and families,  
*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for the reconciliation of all people, and for the Church throughout the world, that it may be an instrument of your healing love.

God of outreach and restoration,  
*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for all who have died as a result of violence, war, disease or famine, especially those who died because of human blindness, neglect, or hardness of heart.

God of eternal life and resurrecting love,  
*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for peace in our communities this day, and commit to you all who work to uphold law and justice. We pray for an end to fear. Bless our streets, cities and schools, so that people may go about their lives in safety and well-being.

God of order and purposed wisdom,  
*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for peace that is founded in righteousness; bring near the day when poverty and pain shall end and all the world show forth the peace of heaven, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God of eternal joy and perfect peace,  
*Hear our prayer.*

Almighty God, you have promised to hear what we ask in the name of your Son. Watch over our country now and in the days ahead, guide our leaders in all knowledge and truth, and make your ways known among all people. Grant your people quiet spirits and courageous hearts. Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *AMEN.*

Adapted from Episcopal Litany for Social Justice  
[http://archive.episcopalchurch.org/eppn/107568\\_43992\\_ENG\\_HTM.htm](http://archive.episcopalchurch.org/eppn/107568_43992_ENG_HTM.htm)