

Opening Prayer

O God who gathers,
you are the one who brings us
together
to challenge us to live your
compassion and your justice.
We pray that as we gather,
we will be touched by your passionate
love
for this fragile planet, for the peoples
of the world,
whatever their culture, religion or
political system,
and for all those who suffer poverty
and exclusion.
We pray, as we gather,
for the courage and the wisdom
to work for the coming of your Reign in
our world.
We ask you this in the name of Jesus.
Amen

Prayer for Tolerance

Compassionate God,
we believe in your respectful love for
all creation.
We ask you to touch the hearts of all
the rulers of nations.
Fill them with compassion and respect
for the weak,
the suffering, the voiceless.
Give them the courage to accept
without arrogance or fear
those who think and act differently
from themselves and
enlighten them to lead their people
wisely,
towards the fullness of your vision for
all humanity. Amen.

Prayer for Peace

God of peace,
you call your daughters and sons to
love you and one another.
Give us and all peoples
the wisdom we need to pursue the
path of peace.
Let us abhor all weapons of mass
destruction,
whatever the country that possesses
and develops them.
Let us demand that our leaders
engage in creative discussion and
negotiation
– not war.
Let us remember that wars harm first
the most innocent and the most
vulnerable,
women, children the old, the sick.
We pray for the people of Iraq, Muslim
and Christian;
we pray for all the peoples of the
Middle East;
we pray with peace-loving people
everywhere
that your reign of peace and justice
may prevail.
We ask you this in Jesus name. Amen.

Final Prayer

May it come soon
to the hungry
to the weeping
to those who have thirsted for your
justice,
to those who have waited centuries
for a truly human life.
Grant us the patience
to smooth the way,
on which your Kingdom comes to us.
Grant us hope,
that we may not weary
in proclaiming and working for it,
despite so many conflicts,
threats and shortcomings.
Grant us a clear vision
that in this hour of our history
we may see the horizon,
and know the way
on which your Kingdom comes to us.
Amen

(From Nicaragua)