

Prayers on the theme of justice

Approach

We gather in the great love of God,
We join together as the people of God,
We are called to follow in the footsteps of Christ and abide in the peace of the Spirit.
Loving God, in this time of worship remind us of the freedom of your word, the provision of your love and your constant presence in our lives. Amen

Confession

Creator God,
whose craft and imagination made an Eden-world
you knew to be good,
forgive us our failure to step out of our own little worlds
to see what you see,
to share your vision;
forgive our inability to shift out of comfortable habits,
and our reluctance to walk alongside you as you once
walked alongside us in Galilee.

In the face of injustice, of harsh inequalities,
and abundance selfishly grasped tight,
we confess our good intentions, unfulfilled;
our righteous indignation, undermined by tiredness and apathy;
and our failure to strive for the
 equal sharing,
 generous giving, and
 selfless caring
that are your example to us
from creation to cross.

In the knowledge that you embrace all our potential
within your generous forgiveness,
guide us, we pray, to
turn swords into ploughshares
and spears into pruning hooks;
transform our prayers into visions,
our sermons into prophecy,
and our hymns into songs of healing justice
 shared and enjoyed
 within your love
 that made all things good.

Thanksgiving (1)

Gracious God

We thank you for all we have, all that you have done for us in our lives and all that you are going to do.

Praise and glory to you God, that you see something in us that means we can help others.
You bless us with gifts, skills and talents that we can use to serve your kingdom here on earth.

Praise and glory to you God, that you challenge us to live Christ-like lives and to take action.
To seek justice and love mercy.

We thank you that the ministry and teachings of Jesus inspire us to do miracles of our own and share what we have. And, that you would lay it on our hearts to be kinder people and to be gracious to others.

God who blessed a hungry crowd with food for five thousand,
as we live in various communities, sharing generously where we can and in whatever ways we can,
as we strive to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with you, our God,
continue to bless us with the help of your Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Thanksgiving (2)

Thank you God of Love for all that we have, for all you have done in our lives and all that you are going to do.

Thank you that you challenge us to be Christ-like,
To seek justice,
And to love mercy.

May our lives be a testament to what it means to help others,
To speak up with the voiceless,
To do the right thing

Thank you for the ministry and teachings of Jesus,
That can inspire us to do miracles of our own.

Bless us with the help of your Holy Spirit again - as we strive to do justice, to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with you, our God.

Amen.

Intercessions

Leader: We pray for those who long for freedom and justice.

For those suffering from oppression and those in abusive relationships...

For those fleeing persecution and those with no safe place to live...

For those whose lives are ruled by fear and the daily routine of war & violence...

And we pray for all who work for justice in your world

ALL: In our prayers and in our lives may we always seek your justice.

Silence

O God, you have shown us what is good and what you require

ALL: To do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with you

Leader: We pray for those who live in need.

For those for whom poverty and unemployment is a daily struggle...

For women, men and children who are homeless...

For those suffering the effects of climate change...

And we pray for all offering support in our communities

ALL: In our prayers and in our lives may we always show your kindness.

Silence

O God, you have shown us what is good and what you require

ALL: To do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with you

Leader: We pray for those who are lonely.

For those who feel neglected and alone...

For those who are ill and those who struggle with mental health issues...

For those who are bereaved...

And we pray for all who stand alongside others

ALL: In our prayers and in our lives always may we always walk humbly with you.

Silence

O God, you have shown us what is good and what you require

ALL: To do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with you, Amen

Blessing

May the God of freedom inspire us to do justice,

Set us free in Jesus to love others with kindness

And lead us by the spirit to walk humbly with God, Amen

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