

A Prayer Service in Response to Violence in France

Presider: In the Name of our God Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier;

People: Blessed are you, God of love and peace.

A Litany for Peace:

V. God, the Father,

R. Have mercy upon us.

V. Christ, the Prince of Peace

R. Have mercy upon us.

V. Holy Spirit who enlightens the nations,

R. Have mercy upon us.

V. Eternal God of Love,

R. Receive our prayer.

V. Remember, O Lord, the peoples of the world divided into many nations and tongues; deliver us from every evil which obstructs your saving purpose; and fulfill your promises to establish your kingdom of peace.

From the curse of war and hatred, and all that cause them,

R. O Lord, deliver us.

V. From believing and speaking lies about other peoples and nations,

R. O Lord, deliver us.

V. From narrow loyalties and selfish isolation,

R. O Lord, deliver us.

V. From fear and distrust of other people and nations, from all false pride, vainglory, and self-conceit.,

R. O Lord, deliver us.

V. From the lust for wealth and domination which can drive peaceful nations to slaughter,

R. O Lord, deliver us.

V. From putting our trust in the weapons of war, and from want of faith in the power of justice and goodwill.

R. O Lord, deliver us.

V. From every thought, word, and deed which divides the human family and separates us from the perfect realization of your love.

R. O Lord, deliver us.

V. That nations may vie with each other in the service of humanity and not in seeking dominion.

R. We pray to you, O God.

V. That followers of every religion may practice love, forbearance and peace toward one another.

R. We pray to you, O God.

V. That science may be the servant of life and never the servant of death,

R. We pray to you, O God.

V. That the treasure now spent on the engines of war may be used for the arts of peace.

R. We pray to you, O God.

V. That your people may rejoice to endure labor, and want, and death to win, not a war, but your kingdom,

R. We pray to you, O God.

V. That we may love not only our country but also the whole family of nations,

R. We pray to you, O God.

Eternal Father, you show your people the way in which they should: turn our feet from the city of destruction toward the city of God, and redirect our desires and labors in accordance with your will, that we may achieve the new world for which your Son was content to die, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.