

## PRAYERS FOR PEACE

An offering from a prayer service at Temple United Methodist Church, Pottstown, PA.  
(February 25, 2022)

READ AND MEDITATE BEFORE THE SERVICE BEGINS: Psalm 46

<sup>1</sup> God is our refuge and strength, a very present<sup>a</sup> help in trouble. <sup>2</sup> Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; <sup>3</sup> though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

<sup>4</sup> There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. <sup>5</sup> God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns. <sup>6</sup> The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts. <sup>7</sup> The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

<sup>8</sup> Come, behold the works of the LORD; see what desolations he has brought on the earth. <sup>9</sup> He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. <sup>10</sup> "Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth." <sup>11</sup> The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

WELCOME AND EXPLANATION OF SERVICE

\*OPENING HYMN: "This Is My Song," *UM Hymnal* #437

A LITANY PRAYER FOR PEACE

(adapted from the *United Methodist Book of Worship*, #520)

Jesus, Prince of Peace, hear our prayers for all the peoples of the world.

Deliver us from every evil that opposes your will for peace.

From the curse of war and all that creates it,

**O Lord, deliver us.**

From willful ignorance and selfish isolation,

**O Lord, deliver us.**

From fear and distrust of those not like us,

**O Lord, deliver us.**

From false pride and self-justifications,

**O Lord, deliver us.**

From the lust for riches, power and status,

**O Lord, deliver us.**

From a poverty of compassion and lives of shallow love,

**O Lord, deliver us.**

**Forgive us and heal us, O Lord, that we may live daily in your image. Amen**

SCRIPTURE: Micah 4:2b-4

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

<sup>3</sup> He shall judge between many peoples,  
and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away;  
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,  
and their spears into pruning hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more;

<sup>4</sup> but they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees,  
and no one shall make them afraid;  
for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.

#### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

- For Ukraine
- \*For specific people and places and needs impacted by the war+
- For the Russian people
- For world leaders
- For the Church and our Christian brothers and sisters
- For the future
- For any other burdens on your heart growing out of the situation in Eastern Europe and the world's conflict spots.

#### SHARING OF MEANINGFUL SCRIPTURE OR HYMNS FROM THE CONGREGATION

\*PRAYER -- Hymn 435 "O God of Every Nation" read

CLOSING HYMN: "Be Still, My Soul," *UM Hymnal*, #534

#### \*Some Special Prayer Requests:

- Revs. Oleg and Julia Staradubets, District Superintendent and Pastor of Kyiv UMC
- Rev Volodymyr Prokip, Pastor Lviv UMC
- 351 UM members in Ukraine (in 2017)
- UM Bishop Eduard Kheday, Moscow, Eurasia Area, including Ukraine and Russia
- UMCOR coordination of humanitarian response with regional partners