

January 11th 2014

- Prayer vigil at

the Cathedral



"Jer 14:9 "We had hoped for peace, for a time of healing, but there is only terror"

The Vigil is in 3 parts

1. Praying into in the pain of the recent events
2. Praying into the present situation
3. Praying for the future

In each case please feel free to pray a short prayer (including a prayer for particular people or situations) as the opportunity arises. We will keep the rest of the time for silent prayer.

There will be a brief update on the current situation before our time of prayer.

1. Praying into in the pain of the recent events

We read Lamentations 2:11

My eyes fail from weeping,
I am in torment within;
my heart is poured out on the ground
because my people are destroyed,
because children and infants faint

Prayer

- For those who have lost their lives
- For those injured and maimed
- For those who have lost loved ones
- For those who have lost their homes and the means to survive
- For those living in the bush, with no help
- For those living in UN camps.

Eternal God, have mercy on those who suffer in South Sudan. Comfort those who grieve, heal those who are wounded in body, mind or spirit, strengthen those for whom hope seems distant, and provide for those who need the basics of life.

In Jesus name. Amen.

Time of silent prayer

2. Praying into the present situation

We read Psalm 25:16-18

Turn to me and be gracious to me,
for I am lonely and afflicted.

¹⁷The troubles of my heart are enlarged;
bring me out of my distresses.

¹⁸Consider my affliction and my trouble,
and forgive all my sins.

¹⁹Consider how many are my foes,
and with what violent hatred they hate me.

²⁰Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me!
Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.

²¹May integrity and uprightness preserve me,
for I wait for you.

Prayer

- For those involved in battle
- for those fearful of attack
- for schools, hospitals, clinics
- for those in Juba and other urban areas, dependent on roads and markets for food

Eternal God, have mercy on those who suffer in South Sudan, be with those who are afraid, help those who struggle to keep life going, strengthen those who seek to continue to serve in a situation of fear and conflict.
In Jesus name. Amen

Leader For those who live their lives in careless unconcern,
who cry “Peace, peace” when there is no peace,
All **We ask your mercy.**

Leader For the times when we were too eager to be better than others,
when we are too rushed to care,
when we are too tired to bother,
when we don’t really listen,
when we are too quick to act from motive other than love,
All **God forgive us.**

3. Prayers for the future

We read Psalm 71:1-4

- ¹ In you, LORD, I have taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame.
² In your righteousness, rescue me and deliver me;
turn your ear to me and save me.
³ Be my rock of refuge,
to which I can always go;
give the command to save me,
for you are my rock and my fortress.
⁴ Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked,
from the grasp of those who are evil and cruel.

Prayer

- For peace
- For leaders on all sides of the war
- for those entrusted with the peace talks in Addis Ababa
- For those involved in mediation
- for the church as it preaches reconciliation and seeks to help
- for healing of the people and the land
- for those outside South Sudan who seek to help, including partners in UK and USA.

Leader ***Let us pray for peace in the Sudan***
We pray for all those who work for peace in the Sudan, reconciliation,
and fullness of life for all people. Grant them courage, discernment and
determination and may they rely on your Spirit and power. We pray that
your peace may become more present in us.
Lord in your mercy...
All **Hear our prayer**

We pray for the Church in the Sudan, for the Archbishop and those in leadership, and for those who faithfully worship you day by day.

Please grant to those who seek to help, wisdom

Lord in your mercy....

All Hear our prayer

Time of silent prayer

Closing prayer

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

John 14:27

**Our Father in heaven
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen**

The Grace

Additional material for Meditation & Prayer.

There is a South Sudanese prayer that runs
*Come everyone, and beg God to give life to humankind,
Come, everyone and receive life from God.
Rain mixed with sunbeams will give us life.*

In a well known hymn, Mary Garang wrote

*Let us give thanks.
Let us give thanks to the Lord in the day of devastation,
And in the day of contentment.
Jesus has bound the world around with the pure light of the word of his Father.
When we beseech the Lord and unite our hearts and have hope, then the Lord has no power.
God has not forgotten us.
Evil is departing and holiness advancing,
These are the things that shake the earth.ⁱ*

*We are the salt of the earth
And we are children of light
A house on top of a hill cannot be hidden.
A house built on a hilltop
Cannot be hidden.
Let us wake up and light our lamps as well.*

Material prepared by Ron Hart, Sudans Committee.