

Prayer Service for Peace
and an End to Violence in Kenya

Opening Song: #280 *Gather* “Bring Forth the Kingdom of Justice”

Greeting: (Leader)

We gather this morning to pray for peace and an end to violence in our world and especially at this time in Kenya. We hear of our many brothers and sisters in Kenya who are suffering. Many innocent people are being killed and even more are suffering because of the violence invading most of their lands. We especially wish to remember the people who are part of our sister diocese of Homa Bay.

Kyrie:

L The grace and peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

R And also with you.

L For peace in all hearts, but especially for peace from the threat of violence for our sisters and brothers in Kenya. Lord, have mercy.

R Lord, have mercy.

L For this holy place and for all who are here to offer their prayers and praise. Christ, have mercy.

R Christ, have mercy.

L That God’s love may break down our inhumanity to one another. Lord, have mercy.

R Lord, have mercy.

Greeting of Peace: Leader—Let us offer one another our hands, our embraces and our commitment to live peacefully with one another.

Opening Prayer: (Leader)

Almighty God, all thoughts of truth and peace come from you. Kindle in the hearts of all your children the love of peace, and guide with your wisdom the leaders of the nations so that your kingdom will go forward in peace, and the earth will be filled with the knowledge of your love; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

Reading: Micah 4:1-5

Psalm Response: Psalm 85 (Led by Leader)

Antiphon: Righteousness and peace shall go before the Lord. (Repeated)

You have been gracious to your land, O Lord,
You have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
You have forgiven the iniquity of your people
and blotted out all their sins.

All: Righteousness and peace shall go before the Lord.

You have withdrawn all your fury
and turned yourself from your wrathful indignation.
Restore us then, O God our Savior.
Let your anger depart from us.

All: Righteousness and peace shall go before the Lord.

Will you be displeased with us forever?
Will you prolong your anger from age to age?
Will you not give us life again
so that your people may rejoice in you.

All: Righteousness and peace shall go before the Lord.

Show us your mercy, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.
I will listen to what the Lord God is saying,
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.

All: Righteousness and peace shall go before the Lord.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

All: Righteousness and peace shall go before the Lord.

Gospel Reading: John 15: 9-12

Brief Reflection followed by quiet meditation: [possibly accompanied by drumming]

Intercessory Prayers: (*Leader*)

The response to the intercessions is Amani, Amani, Mungu Amani,

For the Church throughout the world and especially for our brothers and sisters in Kenya,

Help us to see all people as our brothers and sisters, and not to focus on our differences, but
rather to recognize one another as children of God, we pray to the Lord,

Insert own petitions...

Prayer of Saint Francis:

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love,
Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is discord, union;
Where there is doubt, faith'
Where there is error, truth;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much
seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood, as to understand;
to be loved, as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Closing Song: "How can I keep from Singing?"

Prayer for Peace in Kenya

Lord, make us to be instruments of your
peace as we share our love and concern
for our brothers and sisters in Kenya, and
especially those of our sister
Diocese of Homa Bay.
From injustice and division,
let them know your love.
From violence and injury,
may they realize your forgiveness.
From despair and darkness,
may they have hope.
From sadness and grief,
may they again know peace and joy.
God of compassion and peace,
kindle in the hearts of all your children
love for peace, and guide with your wisdom
the leaders of Kenya as they work to
bring about peace and justice in their land.
We ask this in your name, Lord.
Amen.

-Sister Anita Jennissen OSF