

**Carrollton Presbyterian Church
International Day of Peace Worship Service
September 21, 2020 at 6:00pm**



Prayer Service for the International Day of Peace September 21st

Opening Prayer:

One: We gather here as a community of believers to celebrate the International Day of Peace. We are reminded that we are all part of one global human family living together in a world that remains broken and divided. We join in prayer in hopes that the universal desire for peace may be realized. Lord God, help us to recognize that you call each one of us to commit ourselves to the effort of peace in the world.

All: Amen.

Call To Worship:

One: Spirit of wisdom,

All: guide us.

One: Spirit of openness,

All: Transform us.

One: Spirit of truth,

All: Lead us.

Song: Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Call To Confession

Confession:

One: Let us recall in the silence of our hearts our role in causing division and brokenness:

- Do I recognize the dignity of all people? *Silent reflection...*
- Do I allow God to speak to me through the lives of the impoverished and marginalized? *Silent reflection...*
- Do I strive to remove barriers between people? *Silent reflection...*
- Do I play my part in creating a fair and just global society? *Silent reflection...*
- Do I challenge unjust systems and structures? *Silent reflection...*
- Do I use the earth's resources wisely? *Silent reflection...*
- Do I allow society to degrade and dehumanize people? *Silent reflection...*
- Do I speak out when others are fearful, oppressed or treated unfairly? *Silent reflection...*

- Do I work to influence my country's foreign and domestic policies? *Silent reflection...*
- Do I work for peace not only in my community or country, but throughout the world? *Silent reflection...*

All: O God, forgive us. We have not always acted for peace. We have caused division and brokenness. God, we ask for your forgiveness and healing. Help us live out our calling as peacemakers. Give us courage and strength to change. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Passing of the Peace

Please greet each other from a distance. We ask that you remain where you are and wave, give virtual hugs, smile, etc. in lieu of moving around.

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: Matthew 5: 3-12

Message: Peacemakers: Our Place in God's Family

Affirmation of Faith:

I believe in peace. And because I believe in peace, I choose to do the things that make for peace:

- I choose to cultivate within myself a powerful peacefulness;
- I choose to practice loving-kindness toward all people;
- I choose to live harmlessly as part of all creation;
- I choose to bring my peacefulness into my home, my workplace, my school, my relationships;
- I choose to speak on behalf of peace when others are speaking out of fear;
- I choose to say no to violence as a way of settling differences between people and nations;
- I choose to be knowledgeable about how things are and to use my divine imagination to dream about how things could be;
- I choose to recognize every person as the image of God no matter how difficult that may be;
- I choose to honor the Prince of Peace in my daily living;

Through these choices, I choose to let peace on earth begin with me.

Song: Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

With God our Creator, Children all are we.
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me,
Let this be the moment now.
With every step I take,
Let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

Prayers of the People:

When peace is fragile, **stay with us, Lord.**
When tempers are raised, **stay with us, Lord.**
When atrocities occur, **stay with us, Lord.**
When forgiveness is rejected, **stay with us, Lord.**
When talks break down, **stay with us, Lord.**
When agreements are broken, **stay with us, Lord.**
When darkness weighs upon us, **stay with us, Lord.**
When we cannot see you, **stay with us, Lord.**
When burdens feel too heavy, **stay with us, Lord.**
When hope seems faint, **stay with us, Lord.**
When we are weak, **stay with us, Lord.**
When faith seems difficult, **stay with us, Lord.**

For all who have lost hope, **walk with them, Lord.**
For all who suffer, **walk with them, Lord.**
For all who are sick and in pain, **walk with them, Lord.**
For all who are struggling, **walk with them, Lord.**
For all who have been badly hurt in life, **walk with them, Lord.**
For all who are grieving, **walk with them, Lord.**
For all who are depressed, **walk with them, Lord.**
For all who feel rejected, **walk with them, Lord.**
For all who feel unloved, **walk with them, Lord.**
For all who are oppressed, **walk with them, Lord.**
For all who are anxious, **walk with them, Lord. Amen.**

Tears of Sorrow and Healing

Special Music: This is My Song of Peace

Charge and Benediction

