

Prayers for Reconciliation
DOTAC Bible Study on Reconciliation
September 16, 2024
OPENING PRAYERS

Song of Reconciliation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1D4wXOGNkrk>

Oh let us be a generation of reconciliation and peace
And let us be a holy nation
Where pride and prejudice shall cease
Let us speak the truth in love
To the lost and least of these
And let us serve the Lord in unity so others will believe
Let us be a generation of reconciliation and peace
Oh let us be a generation of reconciliation and peace
And let us build on one foundation
Till He comes and the wars of men shall cease
Let us share the Love of Jesus without hypocrisy
Let mercy and forgiveness begin with you and me
Let us be a generation of reconciliation and peace
 Have we not one Father?
 Have we not one faith?
 Have we not one calling to become one Holy race?
Let us be a generation of reconciliation and peace
And let us pray for restoration
And seek the Lord together on our knees
Let us keep our hearts from evil
And cling to what is good
Let us honor one another and love the brotherhood
Let us be a generation of reconciliation and peace

Buddy Owens, Claire Cloninger, Morris Chapman

We gather with a hunger for reconciliation.
 What is done cannot be undone.
 What is done next must now be done with care.
We gather because we are hopeful,
 because we have visions and dreams of a brighter future.
 that there may be more than vision in this time,
These are the wounds we must heal together—
 Grief and anger for all that has been lost,
 Guilt or fear in the reliving,
 Pain that has gone without sufficient comfort,
 Mistrust that was earned, that continues burning still,
 Every injury we may have named, and yet still carry,
Those we haven't, can't, or dare not speak aloud,
Those we are not ready to make public,
Those still not recognized, accepted, understood.
These are the wounds that seek replacement—
 Not cancellation or denial,
 Wounds we will tend cautiously,
 Applying the salve of understanding,

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Forming scars that mark our history,
Without disfiguring the future we might share.
This is not a time of quick solutions, fancy talking.
This is a slow precision. This is a prayer for peace.
We are new at this endeavor. New at listening, new at hearing.
New at taking enough time to honestly receive one another's stories.
What is done cannot be undone.
What is done next must now be done with care.
We gather because we are hopeful,
Because we have visions and dreams of a brighter future.
May the strength of this time together help us to walk forward.
May the wisdom of this experience help us to know our path.
May we have the courage to return, as often as necessary, until our way is clear.
May we have the perseverance, together, to see it through.
May we cause it to be so.

Unitarian Universalist Association
<https://www.uua.org/worship/words/prayer/prayer-reconciliation>

God of all creation,
as we journey together in this ... Land,
we pray for healing, forgiveness and unity,
creating a path of good will, with justice and compassion.
Jesus, through the power of your love, you have given us the courage, wisdom and strength
to share our gifts and talents in humility.
In peace and understanding we reconcile with each other.
Creator Spirit, we come together in prayer and thanksgiving for the many blessings we have received.
Allow your Spirit to wash over us and give us strength to walk together as one.

*This Reconciliation Church prayer was written by a small group of Australian and Torres Strait Island Aboriginal Elder women and
Reconciliation Church staff members in 2014*

<https://www.catholicreligious.org.au/news/2019/7/9/journeying-together-a-prayer-for-reconciliation#:~:text=we%20pray%20for%20healing%2C%20forgiveness,we%20reconcile%20with%20each%20other>

God of hope and love,
Today we stand somewhere between peace and joy,
unsure where to find them
in a world where women continue to be subject to violence
because they are women, because they are Indigenous.
Today it is hard for us to imagine the lamb and the lion together,
to know that our hearts will rejoice at the arrival of justice.
And yet we persevere.
We remember, and we persevere.

*Sara Stratton, Advent prayer written for the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women and in
honour of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls*
<https://united-church.ca/prayers/god-hope-and-love>

For peace in the human family
Creator God,
in love you have fashioned the human family
in a variety of races, languages, and cultures.
Do not let our diversity divide us,

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but help us to welcome gifts
we can give and receive from one another.
Save us from prejudice, arrogance and fear,
and teach us how to live together
as members of one family,
sharing one home,
and the children of one God. Amen.

<https://www.faithward.org/prayers-for-peace-and-reconciliation/>

Holy One, Creator of all that is, seen and unseen,
of story and of song,
of heartbeat and of tears of bodies, souls, voices and all relations:
you are the God of all truth and the way of all reconciliation.
Uphold with your love and compassion all who open their lives in the sacred sharing of their stories
breathe in us the grace to trust in your loving forgiveness,
that we may face our histories with courage;
touch us through the holy gift of story
that those who speak and those who listen may behold your own redeeming presence;
guide us with holy wisdom to enter through the gates of remorse
that our feet may walk gently and firmly on the way of justice and healing. Amen.

From the Anglican Church of Canada

<https://www.kairoscanada.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/DR-IR-May27Insert.pdf>