

Prayers for Peace in Places of Violence

Created by Rebecca Littlejohn

Read Jeremiah 6:13-16a (through “rest for your souls”)

Invite the group into a time of participatory prayer for peace in places of violence.

If you have some small object each person can use when it's their turn, this can help with focus. We used the hand outlines from the prayer stations from our earlier prayer time, but you could also have each person light a candle, place a small pebble in a pile, pour some water into a bowl, or anything else you can come up with.

Invite people to take turns saying, “God, we pray for _____” naming a place where violence or war is raging.

Then the whole group will respond by saying, “God, we pray for _____” repeating the place that was named.

The person who began is then invited to speak a prayer for that place, lifting up the issues that inspired them to offer this prayer.

When it seems that the prayers have come to a close, sing “Dona Nobis Pacem” (Chalice Hymnal #297).