

MORNING PRAYER

The Ecumenical Centre, Geneva, Switzerland

Wednesday, 6 December 2017

“A light of peace”

Prayer for peace in the Korean Peninsula and the world

(You may stand.)

Opening

- L: We celebrate this Advent morning prayer
in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen.**
- L: As we expect the coming of the Prince of Peace,
let us join in prayer for peace and reunification in the Korean peninsula
and for a world free of nuclear weapons.
Lift up your heads, O gates!
- C: **And be lifted up, O ancient doors!
That the King of glory may come in.**
- L: Who is the King of glory?
- C: **The Lord of hosts is the King of glory.**

♪ **Macht hoch die Tür** (*stanzas 1, 2, 4 in English or in other language of your choice.*)

(Please be seated.)

Prayer of confession

- L: Eternal God,
the Alpha and the Omega,
our beginning and our end,
the candle of the first week of Advent reminds us of the coming light of Christ.
Together with sisters and brothers in North and South Korea,
and people around the world campaigning to abolish nuclear weapons,
we are waiting for the days when the nations will no longer be divided and the nations
will beat their weapons into ploughshares.
We pray:
- C: **Come, O Emmanuel, come and save us!**
- L: As we await, forgive us when we only have good intentions,
but do not commit ourselves to concrete action for peace and justice.
- C: **Grant that our actions and our words may always promote peace.**
- L: Forgive us when we allow your image in us to be marred
as we remain passive in face of so much violence, exclusion,
and threats of the use of nuclear and other deadly weapons.
- C: **Grant that our actions and our words may always promote peace.**
- L: Forgive us for the times when we have spoken too hastily
without thinking of the consequences, or have remained silent out of fear or indifference.
- C: **Grant that our actions and our words may always promote peace.**

L: Forgive us if we have failed to care for your world, to protect nature,
the home you have given us the home of our ancestors and of our descendants.
Help us to promote life and seek peace.

C: Grant that our actions and our words may always promote peace.

(adapted from Imagine: Peace, p. 52)

L: Listen to God's words:
Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
I do not give to you as the world gives.
Do not let your hearts be troubled,
and do not be afraid. *(John 14:27)*

C: Thanks be to God.

♪ **O day of peace**

Scripture reading - Isaiah 11:1-9

¹ A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

² The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

³ His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;

⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

⁹ They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

(You may stand.)

♪ **Halelu, Haleluja**

Hlar Hay, Myanmar



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Scripture reading - Matthew 3:1-3, 7-10

³In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.”’

⁷[W]hen he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, ‘You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit worthy of repentance.

⁹Do not presume to say to yourselves, “We have Abraham as our ancestor”; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

♪ **Halelu, Haleluja**

Hlar Hay, Myanmar



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Prayer for peace in Korean Peninsula and the world

L: God of life, lead us to justice and peace!
So we prayed when we were gathered in Busan, Korea, 4 years ago, so we pray today
when we are hearing the threats of war in the Korean peninsula.

(During the singing, a candle is brought in and put in the middle of the Advent wreath. Lit the candle with the fire from the Advent candle. Everyone is then invited to have her/his candle lit as well.)

♪ **Ososö** (*sung in Korean for several times*)

Geonyong Lee, Korea

1. O - so - sö o - so - sö, pyöng - hwa - üi im - güm
 1. Come now, O God of peace, we are your peo - ple;
 1. Komm nun, Fürst des Frie - dens, ein' uns zu dei - nem Lei - be,
 1. Viens, viens, ô roi de paix et ras - sem - ble nous,
 1. Ven, oh Dios de paz pues so - mos tu pue - blo;

u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sö.
 pour out your spir - it that we be one bod - y.
 komm, Herr Jesus, komm, ver - söh - ne dir all dein Volk.
 viens, viens, ô maî - tre, ré - con - ci - lie ton peu - ple.
 y por tu Es - pí - ritu, haz - nos un so - lo cuer - po.

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(After all candles are lit, the leader continues to pray.)

L: God of light, lead us to justice and peace!
 So we pray when we start our Advent season,
 expressing our expectations to the light of the world
 that has come to us in Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace.

♪ **Ososö**

Come now, O God of peace, we are your people;
 pour out your Spirit that we be one body.

L: God of hope, lead us to justice and peace!
 So we pray when we see the realities of injustices and unsolved conflicts
 being extended and expanded, even becoming enormous,
 when we see how the horizon gets filled with worries
 for the future of the people of Korea.

♪ **Ososö**

Come now, O God of hope, we are your people;
 pour out your Spirit that we be one body.

L: God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the giver of all life,
 our saviour and comforter, give the people of Korea peace,
 and give peace to all peoples all over the world.

♪ **Ososõ**

Come now, O God of love, we are your people;
pour out your Spirit that we be one body.

L: God, grant us that our light shine where we are,
so that we share the life and the hope you have given us.
In your grace, hear our prayer!

C: **Amen.**

♪ **Ososõ**

Come now, O God of joy, we are your people;
pour out your Spirit that we be one body.

Blessing

L: Let us ask for God's blessing.

C: **May the light of Christ shine upon us
and scatter the darkness from before our path.
Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless us now and forever.
Amen.**

L: Let us go in peace to prepare the way of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!