A Prayer for the Crisis in Ukraine

by Pete Greig

Thank you for making time to pray for the crisis in Ukraine.

We encourage you to take time to quiet your heart before God with a couple of minutes of silence.

Then, as you feel led, use the guide below as you pray. You can either pray it as it's written, or you might simply want to read the guide and allow it to spark your own prayers for the situation.

The bold type below is meant as a corporate response in the prayers of the congregation. You can either pray them, simply observe some silence in between your prayers.

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Father God, King of all nations, we cry out to you now for the people of Ukraine. We ask you to rescue those who are vulnerable from the hands of their enemies that they may live without fear before you all their days [Luke 1:74-75].

Lord have mercy.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Lord of lords and Prince of Peace, our politicians are predicting the biggest war in Europe since 1945, and we simply cry out to you urgently to write another story in our time. Thwart the dark machinations of evil men. Give wisdom beyond human wisdom to peacemakers seeking an equitable and less violent way. May politicians exercise the wisdom from above, which is peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, and full of mercy [James 3:17].

Lord have mercy.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Holy Spirit, we pray for the church in Ukraine, a nation in which 70% of the population call themselves Christian. Give our many brothers and sisters in that nation courage in this crisis that they may proclaim the good news of your kingdom, bind up broken hearts, and bring comfort to all who mourn. [Isaiah 61:1-2].

Lord have mercy.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

You Lord, make wars cease to the end of the earth; you break bows, shatter spears, and burn shields with fire [Psalm 46:9]. And so we ask you now to save the lives of many people in Ukraine. Make a peace that is strong and not weak. De-escalate this crisis. We hear of wars and rumors of wars (Matt. 24:6], but you Lord are our rock, our fortress and our deliverer. Our hope is in you. And so we address the nations now. In the name of Jesus we say: "Be still and know God! He is exalted among the nations; he shall be exalted in the earth [Psalm 46:10].

Lord have mercy.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.