



## Prayer for A World Uprooted

*This prayer was written in recognition of the almost 66 million people who are uprooted around the world in 2018.*

Before praying, invite people to add their prayers after each petition.

**Leader #1:** Oh, precious God, the one who cries for and with your children, we seek your protection, healing, power to transform, and spark for action.

**Leader #2:** Today we pray that you protect those who are on the move leaving their homes as they scramble to find security and stability:

We pray that you protect those who are caught in the violence of war, physical abuse and trafficking . . .

We pray that you protect those who are orphaned and widowed . . .

**Leader #3:** We pray that your healing presence shine through as uprooted communities strive to find “home” often in places that are not “home”:

We pray that your healing presence be with victims of natural and human-made disasters . . .

We pray that your healing presence be with communities that have faced trauma and provide resiliency for at-risk communities . . .



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**Leader #4:** Today we ask that you transform the structures that push people from their homes:

We pray that you transform structures that economically exploit and treat humans as commodities . . .

We pray that you transform structures that promote land grab, owning water rights, and the pervasive dominance over and abuse of your creation . . .

**Leader #5:** We pray that you transform a world to receive those who flee injustice and inequality . . .

**Leader #6:** We pray that you transform us who directly or indirectly benefit from structures that exploit, exclude, manipulate, control and oppress your children and your creation . . .

**Leader #7:** We pray that you push us to action with affected communities to transform structures so that they reflect your goodness, grace, mercy, and light . . .

**Leader #1:** It is you, God who keeps faith forever,  
Who secures the oppressed  
And feeds the hungry.

**All:** It is you, God who sets the captives free,



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Who restores the sight of the blind,  
Who raises up those that were bowed down,  
And loves the just.

**Leader #1:** It is you, God who protects the stranger,  
Who sustains the widow and the orphan,  
And thwarts the wicked.

**All:** You, the maker will reign for ever,  
Our God through all generations.  
We give praise to the Holy One.  
Alleluia! Amen.

*-Written by Amanda Craft (Immigration Issues Office) and Jimmie Hawkins (Office of Public Witness) of the PCUSA with excerpts from the Iona Abbey Worship Book.*

**Suggested Arrangement:** Place 7 candles in the front or center of your worship space and invite each reader to light a candle after reading the petition as the congregation offers up its own prayers out loud and in silence.