



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.