

Prayers for Ukraine

From sources in the United Reformed Church

God of all, with alarm and concern we bring before you the military intervention in Ukraine.

In a world you made for peace and flourishing, we lament the use of armed force.

We mourn every casualty of this conflict, every precious life extinguished by war.

We pray comfort for those who grieve and those who are fearful.

Hear our longing that leaders and nations will honour the worth of all people by having the courage to resolve conflict through dialogue.

May all our human failings be transformed by your wonderful grace and goodness.

We ask this in the name of Christ, the author of peace and sustainer of Creation.

Amen.

A prayer for Hope

God of all time,

God of this time,

these times are difficult, and we bring them to you.

There have been other times like this when countries have invaded others. You show us countries who seized a village or settlement at a time and countries facing full invasion. You reveal, when we dare to look, how national boundaries have changed like waves on the sand.

We feel so powerless; it all is so human and so tragic. We bring it all to you in our confusion and worry.

Remind us, as ever, that worry is not what we must carry. Remind us that worry makes us smaller, makes our powerlessness real. Fill the place that worry has taken in our hearts and replace it with hope.

Give us courage to read the news as we can, to listen, to watch, to understand.

As we face the reality of these times, we pray for your hope to carry and fill us. Let hope be the insight which we gift to each other. Fill us with your knowledge that hope is as real an act as giving our money and our welcome.

You will bring peace, as ever you do.

Give us courage to gift your hope to that process.

In the name of your incarnated Christ and in the power and presence of the Holy Spirit,

Amen