

PRAYER FOR ALL PEOPLE

Shared from Belfast, Northern Ireland among clergy colleagues on the occasion of the July 4th and 250th anniversary, the following prayer encompasses the need for continual learning about peace-building, non-violence, how politics distorts religion, legacies of racism, and how we can work for a better future. This prayer reflects the experiences and concerns of ordinary people in many places around the world who have moved through loss, hatred and imprisonment including both sides of the Troubles in Ireland, into lives of what can be called “convicted humility” and constructive engagement through realistic work on peace everyday.

**Creator of us all: You are the source of every blessing,
the judge of every nation and the hope of earth and heaven:**

**We pray to you on this important anniversary. We call to mind
the best that is within us: that we live under God,
that we are indivisible, that liberty and justice extend to all.**

**We confess the sin that runs through our history as a nation:
The displacement of native peoples, racial injustice,
economic inequity, regional separation, cultural discrimination.**

**And we profess a deep and abiding gratitude for the goodness
of ordinary people who have made sacrifices, who have sought,
opportunities, who have journeyed to this land as immigrants
and strengthened its promise in successive generations,
who have found freedom on these shores, and defended this freedom
at tremendous cost.**

**Be with us on this 250th anniversary of the signing of the
Declaration of Independence and the days, weeks, and years to follow.**

**Remind us that your ways are not our ways, that your power and
might transcend the plans of every nation, that you are not mocked.**

**Let those who follow your Son Jesus Christ be a peaceable people
in the midst of division. Send your Spirit of peace, justice and
freedom upon us, break down the walls of political partisanship.**

**Out of many, make us one. Give us wisdom to walk in your ways,
courage to speak in your name, and humility to trust in your providence.
AMEN**

PLEDGE TO THE CHRISTIAN FLAG

I pledge allegiance
to the Christian Flag
and to the Savior for whose
Kingdom it stands.
One Savior, crucified, risen,
and coming again
with life and liberty to all
who believe.



PLEDGE TO THE BIBLE

I pledge allegiance to the Bible,
God's Holy Word.
I will make it a lamp unto my feet,
and a light unto my path,
and will hide its words
in my heart that I might
not sin against God.



PLEDGE TO AMERICAN FLAG

I pledge allegiance
to the flag
of the United States of America
and to the Republic
for which it stands,
one nation,
under God,
indivisible,
with liberty
and justice for all.

