

ACLC: Clarion Prayer Call for Ukraine - Russia Thursday, March 3, 9:30 PM EST

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Greetings ACLC family!

Join us on
Thursday, March 3, 2022 @ 9:30PM EST

The American Clergy Leadership Conference calls for all to come into one accord in prayer for peace in Ukraine and Russia.

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“Brothers and sisters, I urge you, through our Lord Jesus Christ and through the love of the Spirit, to join me in my struggles in your prayers to God for me. Pray that I will be rescued from the people in Judea who don’t believe. Also, pray that my service for Jerusalem will be acceptable to God’s people there so that I can come to you with joy by God’s will and be reenergized with your company.” (Romans 15:30-32 CEB)

On February 21st 2022, Russia sent troops to territories of the Donbas, and three days afterwards ignited a full invasion of Ukraine. Why?

The bombings on Ukrainian soil was not decided overnight. The warring between Ukraine-Russia began in 2014 when Russia annexed Crimea from Ukraine. Now, in February 2022, Russia has escalated the use of armaments on the people of Ukraine.

The American Clergy Leadership Conference issues a clarion call to Blessed Clergy; Blessed Couples; and the Young Christian Leadership Conference to unify in **a period of prayer and fasting for peace during the lunch hour on March 2nd - April 14th* 2022 for Ukraine, Korea, and uttermost spaces worldwide.**

May we bond with the heart of God by drawing closer in identifying with the suffering of the hurting people experiencing brutality and the fatalities of beloved relatives, friends, and neighbors.

“May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ be blessed! He is the compassionate Father and God of all comfort. He’s the one who comforts us in all our trouble so that we can comfort other people who are in every kind of trouble. We offer the same comfort that we ourselves received from God.” (2 Corinthians 1:3-4 CEB)

What are we called to do in the coming hours and days? We are called to pray as children of God. *“Ask, and you will receive. Search, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened to you.” (Matthew 7:7 CEB)* We are to pray for the people acting in good behavior and those acting in bad behavior. We engage in prayer seeking the blessed assurance that right shall triumph over when we work for the good of human lives. Rest, meditate, reflect, and reveal the glorification of God by refocusing our attention on being successful in influencing leaders to negotiate for interdependence, mutual prosperity, and universal values, so as to end the violent deaths.

“Let us all be grateful for everything, forgive our enemies, love our neighbors as one’s own flesh and work in oneness for peace.” (Hak Ja Han Moon)

Why must we love those waging war? God is not above crying; humanity shares in tears with God for the children, the youth, and the elderly who are wounded and scarred, too, during these attack days. We break down crying because it’s a thin line between love and hate; it hurts for Christians not to love and it hurts to love those who choose to hurt people we value and who are valued by God.

“You have heard that it was said, You must love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who harass you so that you will be acting as children of your Father who is in heaven. He makes the sun rise on both the evil and the good and sends rain on both the righteous and the unrighteous. Therefore, just as your heavenly Father is complete in showing love to everyone, so also you must be complete.” (Matthew 5:43-45, 48 CEB)

“Whatever may be the tensions and the stresses of a particular day, there is always lurking close at hand the trailing beauty of forgotten joy or unremembered peace.” “Don’t ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it.” (Howard Thurman)

“They should shun evil and do good; seek peace and chase after it. The Lord’s eyes are on the righteous and his ears are open to their prayers. But the Lord cannot tolerate those who do evil.’ Who will harm you if you are zealous for good? But happy are you, even if you suffer because of righteousness! Don’t be terrified or upset by them. Instead, regard Christ the Lord as holy in your hearts. Whenever anyone asks you to speak of your hope, be ready to defend it.” (1 Peter 3:11-15 CEB)

There are people dying; disappearing; and being buried to rise for their bodies are not rising at the sounding of alarms anymore. What do we do as it seems hope is gone. We need the hope of two trees. “Indeed there is hope for a tree. If it’s cut down and still sprouting and its shoots don’t fail, if its roots age in the ground and its stump dies in the dust, at the scent of water, it will bud and produce sprouts like a plant.” (Job 14:7-9 CEB)

We come to this period of prayer and fasting for world peace, during the lunch hour daily on March 2nd - April 4th 2022.

Let us pray: Eternal God, our Heavenly Parent, hear us when we pray; and bless our clarion call to receive a participatory “yes” though a “no” shall not prevent us from inviting all to witness to God’s holy power and power of love to change the world. May the lives we live help preserve the lives in nations through the earth, especially where people in Ukraine and Russia, too, are wanting to live on to see better days. Amen.

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