

Give wisdom to leaders and commanders,  
that they may be a force for good on the Earth.  
Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

In your wisdom embrace our enemies, and those who wish us harm:  
turn the hearts of all to kindness and friendship.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Be with all medics and chaplains, and all who support the suffering:  
give them wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Sustain the anxious and fearful,  
and renew them with courage from on high.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Comfort all worried families, whose loved ones are in danger:  
surround them with your love, protect them from all harm.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Be with the sick and wounded, stand by all prisoners and captives:  
let your mercy be shown to all, and your power to heal and save.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Receive those fallen in battle, and all innocents who have died:  
surround their loved ones with compassion, and give them a patient faith.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Confirm what is founded on truth, and establish your love in our hearts;  
that justice may abound on the Earth, and all peoples rejoice in your peace.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*The litany may end with the Lord's Prayer, or else this or some other collect.*

Lord our God, our sure stronghold, hear the voice of our pleading and deliver  
us from every evil. Strengthen us as we strive for the poor and oppressed,  
and establish your justice in all the earth. Amen. *Psalm 140*

*For more resources see <http://oremus.org/labarum/>*



The Royal Army Chaplains' Department

## Prayers in Time of War

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### *A Prayer for the Peace of the World*

#### *From Common Worship of the Church of England*

Almighty God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed:  
kindle, we pray, in the hearts of all, the true love of peace and guide with  
your pure and peaceable wisdom those who take counsel for the nations  
of the earth that in tranquillity your kingdom may go forward, till the  
earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ your  
Son our Lord. Amen

### *A Prayer in time of war*

#### *From the Book of Common Order of the Church of Scotland*

God of infinite mercy, we trust in your good purposes of peace for all  
your children. We pray for those who at this time face danger in the  
defence of justice. Watch over those in peril; support those who are  
anxious for loved ones; gather into your eternal purpose those who will  
die. Remove from the hearts of all people the passions that keep alive the  
spirit of war, and in your goodness restore peace among us; for the sake  
of the Prince of peace, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### *A Prayer for the Forces of the Crown*

#### *From the Book of Common Order of the Church of Scotland*

Almighty God, in you alone we find safety and peace. We commend to  
your gracious keeping all the men and women who serve in the Navy,  
the Army, or the Air Force, who face danger and put their lives at risk so  
that others might live in safety. Defend them day by day by your  
heavenly power; and help them to know that they can never pass beyond  
the reach of your care. Keep alive in them and in us your vision of that  
peace which alone we must seek and serve; through Jesus Christ our  
Lord. Amen.

*A Prayer for the Armed Forces*

*From the Field Service Book of the British Army*

Almighty God, stretch forth your mighty arm to strengthen and protect the armed forces: grant that meeting danger with courage and all occasions with discipline and loyalty, they may truly serve the cause of justice and peace; to the honour of your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*A Prayer for the Peoples of Iraq*

*From the Common Worship Collect for Psalm 72*

Your kingdom come, O Lord, with deliverance for the needy, with peace for the righteous, with overflowing blessing for all nations, with glory, honour and praise for the One God and Father of us all, He who is Compassionate and Merciful. Amen.

*A Prayer for the victims of war*

*From a prayer of St Anselm (1033-1109)*

God of love, whose compassion never fails; we bring before you the griefs and perils of peoples and nations; the necessities of the homeless; the helplessness of the aged and weak; the sighings of prisoners; the pains of the sick and injured; the sorrow of the bereaved. Comfort and relieve them, O merciful Father, according to their needs; for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

*A Prayer for Social Justice and Responsibility*

*From Common Worship of the Church of England*

Eternal God, in whose perfect realm no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, and no strength known but the strength of love: so guide and inspire the work of those who seek your kingdom that all your people may find their security in that love which casts out fear and in the fellowship revealed to us in Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen

*A Prayer that the Will of God may prevail.*

*From the Book of Common Order of the Church of Scotland*

Lord God, Sovereign over all, bring in the day of the splendour of your kingdom and draw the whole world into willing obedience to your reign. Cast out the evil things that cause war, and send your Spirit to rule the hearts of people in righteousness and love. Repair the desolations of many generations, that the wilderness may rejoice, and the city be made glad with your law. Confirm every work that is founded on truth, and fulfil the desires and hopes of your people, through the victory of Christ our Lord. Amen.

*A Prayer for Guidance and Protection*

*From the Book of Common Order of the Church of Scotland*

God of light and love, in your tender compassion you sent your Son to shine on those who sit in darkness and to guide our feet into the way of peace. Grant us, in our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what you would have us do. By your Spirit of wisdom, save us from false choices. And since it is by your light that we are enlightened, lead us and protect us, and give us a straight path to follow, that we may neither stumble nor fall; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*A Litany for the Armed Forces*

Holy God, the protector of all who trust in you:

Grant to the Armed Forces of the Crown, and all who seek you, the assurance of your presence, the knowledge of your love, and the guidance of your spirit.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Bring healing and wholeness to people and nations:

let your mercy rule all that we do.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Be with all who defend your truth and your peace, that we may vanquish injustice and wrong.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**