



**PRAY
AND
ACT
FOR
PEACE
IN IRAQ**



God of Peace, Listen to Our Lament

God, the world in the Middle East is broken
And looks like it is falling apart.
The war, a beast with massive power,
Continues his destructive pace.
Children, women and elders cry, hopeless,
Their tears falling on the desert's ground and disappearing.
There is no place to stand in hope.

God, do you hear their lament?
They are in despair, their anguish is evident.
God, do you feel their pain?
The desolation outside is a deep reality inside for them,
Because dehumanizing forces of war
Viciously promote hate and rejection.
Are you absent? They don't see you.
What they see is the face of the death.

Nevertheless, our faith tells us that you are kind and generous.
You are our God of peace.
We know you always hear the laments of the poor
And feel the pain of people suffering.
And yes, you always are present!
Say the Word and stop the evil!
Affirm your peace; bring back the joy of life for them!

Lord, help us to hear with your ears and to feel with your heart.
Transform and move our souls to love our enemies.
Claim us for yourself
And raise the flag of your love in us.
Then we will have the strength of our commitment
To spread the heavenly gift of peace,
To challenge the powers,
To proclaim the justice of your kingdom.
In the name of Jesus, our Lord, we pray.
Amen

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