

**PRAY
AND ACT
FOR
PEACE**



A Prayer for North America and Colombia
from Mennonite Central Committee

Leader: "And the leaves of the tree shall be for the healing of the nations."

Reader 1: For the healing of the poor, whose bodies suffer from malnutrition and disease, and whose hearts ache when there is no food for their children,

All: We pray to you, O Lord.

Reader 2: For the healing of the rich, who are bound up in protecting their possessions, and do not experience the life-giving freedom found in sharing,

All: We pray to you, O Lord.

Reader 3: For the healing of members of armed groups, who struggle to come to terms with the violence they have seen and done, and who see no way out,

All: We pray to you, O Lord.

Reader 1: For the healing of those who have lost trust in their neighbors, believing they do not have their best interests at heart,

All: We pray to you, O Lord.

Reader 2: For the healing of those who have given in to cynicism, who see injustice as inevitable,

All: We pray to you, O Lord.

Reader 3: For the healing of those who no longer have hope, who have been waiting for signs of spring for far too long,

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Prayer, continued...

All: We pray to you, O Lord.

Reader 1: For the healing of policymakers, who continue to seek security through arms and peace and through violence,

All: We pray to you, O Lord.

Reader 2: For the healing of the land, water and sky, which have been degraded by those who see God's creation only as a resource to be exploited and not as a gift to be cared for,

All: We pray to you, O Lord.

Reader 3: For the healing of both the United States and Colombia, countries who have seen parts of their populations as expendable, leaving scars that are still visible,

All: We pray to you, O Lord.

Leader: Thank you, God, for your vision of restoration and healing, revealed to us in Scripture. We long for people of all nations to find rest together in the shade of your healing tree.

All: Amen.