



**PRAY
AND ACT
FOR
PEACE**



A Post-Inauguration Prayer

God of hope and promise,

We come before you in the glow of the inauguration of Barack Obama, an incredible event that, for many in the United States and around the world, has generated great expectations for change. And there is much need for it. We have been dragged down by warfare, diminishing international standing and gross infringements on personal rights and freedoms and more. Now an economic crisis has left many struggling to provide for themselves and their families.

These are daunting issues for a new president. Lord, grant him the ability to righteously and effectively lead so this country can more justly serve the creation and peoples you have made in your image. Give President Obama the strength, patience, wisdom and courage needed so that the hopes for a better world might be realized and that we may be a blessing to you and to others.

At the same time, we need to understand the reality of human limitations. To invest all our hope in one man is both foolish and idolatrous. Let us remember that you, Lord, are our supreme hope and our promise for change we can with live with, both in this world and in the world to come. As we put our trust in you, from the White House to across the globe, may we be instruments of your change.

We expectantly pray this in Jesus' name, Amen.

Rich Preheim is director of the Mennonite Church USA Historical Committee.