

# Litany and Prayer

*For use when  
signing letters  
to President  
George W. Bush*



Leader: Jesus said, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's..."

**People: "and to God the things that are God's." (Matt 22:21)**

Leader: What will we give to the President of the United States?

**People: We will offer him our prayers, along with our prayers for all political leaders in this time of tension and terrorism.**

Leader: What else will we give him in a democracy, which prizes freedom of speech?

**People: We will give him our voices of dissent against a war with Iraq.**

Leader: Jesus said, "Give unto God the things that are God's."

**People: Since all things are God's, we cannot separate our faith from our politics.**

Leader: What will we give to God?

**People: We will give to God our ultimate allegiance and loyalty.**

Leader: What else will we give to God?

**People: We will give to God our prayers for the leaders and people of the United States and Iraq, and our actions that witness to God's way of peace. Amen.**

## Prayer

God of all nations and peoples, we unite our voices in prayer for our nation's people and leaders as the drums of war continue to call out for devotees. Give us the courage to utilize our freedoms to publicly speak our hearts and minds, and act with our bodies, guided by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Sovereign. May the voices that cry out for peace be heard amid the rattling of swords and the marching of soldiers.

We pray for the leaders and people of the United States and Iraq, that war may be averted and relations between our countries be reconciled. Remember, Loving God, those in the United States who still suffer and grieve deep losses from the devastation of September 11. Remember, Merciful God, those in Iraq who suffer and grieve the losses of thousands upon thousands of their children from sanctions that have blocked life giving supplies. In our common losses and grief, may our clouded eyes be opened to see our common humanity, so we may together pursue a common peace. For the honor and glory of God and the welfare of all God's children, we pray. Amen.

See the PJSN web site <http://peace.MennoLink.org> for information and updates.



Words by Leo Hartshorn, Minister of Peace and Justice, Mennonite Mission Network. Graphic design by Cynthia Friesen, PJSN volunteer