

## God of mystery, who is ever beyond us —

For years now we have faced with courage, with exhaustion, with despair, a common invisible enemy. And while it has been plenty hard, our brothers and sisters in Ukraine now add to that fight a very real, very visible one. An enemy with a name, with a face, with an agenda which goes against the very essence of our shared humanity.



## God of mystery, who is ever beyond us —

We do not understand, we do not have answers for why suffering persists; for why caregivers reporting to work are responsible also for their patients' physical safety from battle; for why mothers and fathers must worry about the roofs over their children's heads; for why families must leave homes, heirlooms, all they have known for what is unknown, in hopes of preserving some semblance of safety.

## God of mystery, who is ever beyond us —

Our souls are weary from the weight of war, from the weight of this despair, from the weight of a conflict that feels all too familiar. We ask how this can be happening, but are left only with the words of your Son:

*Peace be with you.*

These words of Jesus, so simple, and, yet, amid the complexities of war, peace feels so out of reach.

*Peace be with you.*



# A PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

**God of mystery, who is ever beyond us —**

It feels as though there is so little to be done, so little that we can do from half a world away ...

And so let us choose peace: let us choose peace today, tomorrow, every day. May our work toward peace in our daily decision-making serve as a small act of resistance against evil, may our choices for peace and our offering of peace to others overwhelm the world.

In your name we pray: **AMEN.**