

Prayers for Sudan

Gracious God,

Watch over the people of Sudan as they vote in the referendum in South Sudan beginning today.

Guide the leaders that they may implement a vote that is nonviolent, fair and free, transparent and just.

Fill the people with wisdom and understanding as they make their decisions.

Break the hold of violence and inspire the people to show compassion to each other, seek justice and pursue peace.

Grant *grace* that they might overcome hatred, anger, wrongs remembered and all that divides them; *grace* that all might come to view one another as brothers and sisters; and *grace* that they might engage the arduous but glorious task of living together in peace.

Inspire the nations and peoples of the world to act in ways that support and help the people of Sudan.

This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

- Bill Andress

Gracious God of peace,
you break the bow;
you snap the spear asunder;
you make wars to cease.
We pray that you will
touch the hearts, the minds, and the spirits of
the leaders of Sudan
the peoples of Sudan
international leaders
and the peoples of the world.
Touch our hearts, our minds, our spirits.
Remind us all of your presence and grace
at all times and in all things.
Remind us that
in you, all things are made new throughout the earth,
in you, war is not inevitable in Sudan,

in you, peace with justice is possible in Sudan.
Reminded, may
the leaders of Sudan
the peoples of Sudan
international leaders
and the peoples of the world
act with compassion,
pursue that peace,
and establish that justice
throughout Sudan.
We pray in the name of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

- The Rev. W. Mark Koenig, director Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations; inspired by
the Rev. Petero Sabune, Africa Partnerships Office, The Episcopal Church

Let the referenda be started, conducted and completed
with the thoughts of fairness and justice on everyone's mind,

Let everyone treat each other as guests
who are being welcomed into their homes.

Let all tribes treat each other with dignity, as brothers and sisters.
May people of the North and South become as one tribe even if apart.

Let all consider the positive examples of those countries that have divided in peace,
such as Czechoslovakia, which split into two countries peacefully.. Peace IS possible.

Let all those military deployed to ensure a peace do their tasks peacefully.
Give them the grace to endure.

Let the martyrs of the past civil wars link arms with other saints and angels to keep
villages safe and all the country safe during this time of decision.

May we praise Your works and use them for what YOU want.
May we all work daily to do Your will.

- This prayer was composed by Muslims and Christians in Sudan. It is shared by the American
Friends of the Episcopal Church in Sudan.