

Prayers for St Andrew's Tide from Feed The Minds/SPCK on the theme of peace and reconciliation

These prayers come from Feed The Minds/SPCK and were written by two of their partners - the partner is Craftshare Vocational Training Centre - in Sierra Leone. They can be used either as they stand or by replacing Sierra Leone for another area of the world where prayers for peace and reconciliation are appropriate.

When we forgive their wrongs
And they forgive our wrongs
We will live in peace in Sierra Leone.
When we accept our faults
And they accept their faults
We will live in peace in Sierra Leone.
Come and make peace
For there is no other place
That is sweeter than Sierra Leone
Come and make peace.

My country cries for peace
In South West North and East
And everywhere you go will hear
Peace, peace
My country cries for peace.

The actual and attempted London bombings on 7th July and 21st July seem to have been planted in the shape of a cross. Let us mediate together on the cross in the face of fear, violence, conflict and death.

Prince of peace
Your head was anointed with the oil of God's grace
Upright and poised amongst crowds of aggressors
Seeing and enlightened in clouds of fear
Like the Northern star, may you guide all who journey, near or far.

Man of suffering
Your hands were out-stretched to the East and to the West
An open gate, an escape from killing fields and fenced-in lives
a door through the walls that divide our world.
Like a heavenly King, may your open-armed invitation draw us all to your banqueting table.

Root of Jesse
Your feet bore a message of hope and joy for all nations
Sure and steadfast, your life was rooted and grounded in love
Your path the way of peace, of understanding even in difference and engagement even in pain.
Like the Spirit who gave you endurance and encouragement at your darkest hour
May you grant us a spirit of unity and direct this and every nation
In the way of peace.

There is also a powerful poem on the theme:

http://www.feedtheminds.org/projects_abroad/rlives_poem.pdf