

CLOSING PRAYER ON HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

Leader: God of justice and mercy, help us remember this day that you have created each and every person with dignity and worth.

All: In all that we do, help us treat one another with the respect and honor due to each person.

Leader: This day we remember and give thanks for the 64th anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

All: We honor the courage of those who came before us, who sought to declare that, regardless of any differences among people, we all share basic human rights.

Leader: We also remember this day the adoption of the Convention Against Torture by the United Nations General Assembly.

All: We pray that every generation may learn that there is no excuse for torture, that torture is always wrong.

Leader: We pray for every life that has been touched by torture, both those tortured and the torturers. We pray for restoration and peace.

All: We pray for fortitude in the face of fear and that we might do what is right and just.

Leader: We pray for governments and persons who seek to prevent torture and who support survivors of torture.

All: We pray for strength and steadfastness in the work of repairing the world. In all things may we honor you, O God, and honor the dignity of each person. Amen.

Closing Prayer may be recited or song: Prayer of St. Francis

**Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy.**

**O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
To be consoled as to console,
To be understood as to understand,
To be loved as to love;
For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
It is in dying to self that we are born to eternal life.**

