

# Wednesdays with Wellspring

4 August 2021

Choose life - Choose peace with justice

Hiroshima Day 2021

Leaders: Alex Scutt(Vic), Doug Hewitt (NSW)



## Narrative

Hiroshima Day commemorates 6 August 1945, the day when an atomic bomb was dropped on the Japanese city of Hiroshima, followed a few days later by one dropped on Nagasaki.

The bombings effectively ended World War II by bringing about the surrender of Japan, but at a terrible price: the two cities were destroyed, and casualties, mostly civilians, were estimated at around 200,000, with many more people dying later from injuries and illness.

We gather to stand in solidarity with the living Japanese victims, some of whom still suffer from the injuries sustained in those two acts of destructive force, which may have ended the war in the Pacific.

We now confess that those acts of violence also had lasting consequences for all the residents of those two cities. Since then, wars have continued in and between many nations, and Hiroshima Day has become a day of prayer for world peace. The day is now observed in Japan, and many other countries.



**Blessed is our God, now and unto the end of the ages  
Blessed is our God, who grants us peace and is the source of all peace.  
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of  
God.**

## Gathering reflection

Loving God, you create and sustain all that is good and beautiful:  
you give life to the earth and all living things.

You have called us to wholeness and to fullness of life,  
but, as we gather here, we are conscious of our brokenness.

We have heard the cries for justice and peace  
from all the corners of the earth,

we are moved by the tears,  
the pain

and the agonies of millions around the world.

We sense the dark clouds of war in many countries.



## Gathering reflection ...

Despite decades of efforts to achieve disarmament, weapons of war are still being produced in even greater quantities: the international arms race is expanding, it knows no boundaries and our own country is complicit.

The use of our taxes supports and encourages local arms producers; they develop new weapons of war and sell them to the highest bidder without adequate scrutiny of human rights in the customer nations.

## Gathering reflection ...

Too many countries still refuse to sign international agreements to ban the production of nuclear weapons, and Australia is one of them.

We say it is time for Australia to develop an independent policy on arms control, to reject the unlimited manufacture and distribution of weapons, and to ratify the UN Treaty to Ban Nuclear Weapons.

核兵器禁止条約批准国



## Confession

God, the keeper of the atoms and stars:  
you made us collaborators in creation,  
but we have pilfered the secrets of ordered existence  
and justified their immoral use in the name of security and peace.  
We could say then that we didn't know the consequences.  
Now we do know, but we are complacent and silent.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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## Confession ...

We have abused the glue of the universe.

We have made and distributed weapons of mass destruction  
instead of rejecting their use for evil.

Fear and presumption have driven us  
to be ready to annihilate untold lives  
and make areas of the earth uninhabitable.

**Christ, have mercy.**

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## Confession ...

Open our eyes to see how small and fragile the planet is,  
how the destruction of any human being diminishes all.  
Heal the wounds opened with the destruction of Hiroshima  
and Nagasaki,  
mend the fabric of the human family.  
Will in us never to repeat this evil.  
**Lord, have mercy.**





## **Words of forgiveness**

Through the cross of Christ  
God have mercy on you,  
pardon you  
and set you free.

Know that you are forgiven  
and be at peace.

God strengthen you in all goodness  
and keep you in life eternal  
Amen



## Poem

Put peace into each other's hands  
and like a treasure hold it;  
protect it like a candle flame,  
with tenderness enfold it.

**Put peace into each other's hands  
with loving expectation;  
be gentle in your words and ways,  
in touch with God's creation.**

Give thanks for strong yet tender hands,  
held out in trust and blessing.  
Where words fall short, let hands speak out,  
the heights of love expressing.





## Poem

Put peace into each other's hands  
he is love's deepest measure;  
in love make peace, give peace a chance  
and share it like a treasure.

**Reach out in friendship, stay with faith  
in touch with those around you.  
Put peace into each other's hands;  
the peace which sought and found you.**

*(Fred Kaan)*

**Mother Teresa**

If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other.

**We listen to the voices of wise women and men**

**Mairead Corrigan-Maguire, Nobel Peace Prize (1976)**

We frail humans are at the one time capable of the greatest good, and the greatest evil. To change we must be more forgiving compassionate loving and above all else joyful.

**Pope Francis again**

Grant us peace, teach us peace; guide our steps in the way of peace. Open our eyes and hearts to give us the courage to say "Never again war! Inspire us to take concrete steps to achieve peace"

**Jimmy Carter, former US President**

We cannot be both the world's champion of peace and the world's leading supplier of the weapons of war.

**John F Kennedy**

Human beings must put an end to war, or war will be the end of humanity; war will exist until the day when the conscientious objector enjoys the same reputation and prestige as the warrior does today.

**Pope Francis on Nuclear Weapons:** Weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, create nothing but a false sense of security. We must listen to the voices of survivors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, together with other victims of nuclear testing. May their prophetic voice serve as a warning for coming generations.

**Helen Keller:** Strike against war, for without you no battles can be fought! Strike against manufacturing shrapnel and gas bombs and all other tools of murder! Strike against preparedness that means death and misery to millions of human beings! Be not dumb, obedient slaves in an army of destruction! Be heroes in an army of construction!

**ICAN Prayer:** May the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons lead to greater disarmament and peace for the whole of humankind.

**Reinhold Neibuhr**

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference.

**Prophet Mohammed:** The earth is made a place for our prayers for peace, and its soil is made to purify us.



## Intercessions

We pray for those suffering war, violence and terror throughout the world.

**God of peace, grant us your peace.**

For children who are sexually exploited and those recruited for war, taught to hate others, or forced to wear explosive vests as suicide bombers.

**God of peace, grant us your peace.**

For all who inflict hatred and violence on others, and for those who make and encourage war. May their hearts be moved to seek justice and harmony.

**God of peace, grant us your peace.**





## Intercessions ...

For the plight of indigenous people throughout the world, remembering especially the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people of Australia, many of whom suffered in the testing on nuclear weapons on their traditional lands.

**God of peace, grant them justice.**

For those who seek asylum and refuge from violence and persecution, especially those who are still detained by our government on Nauru and Manus Island, or in detention in our cities.

**God of peace, grant them your peace and our generosity.**

## Intercessions ...

For our politicians and government officials who support the manufacture of weapons of war for indiscriminate sale to military forces in war-torn countries, perpetuating the violence and killing of civilians.

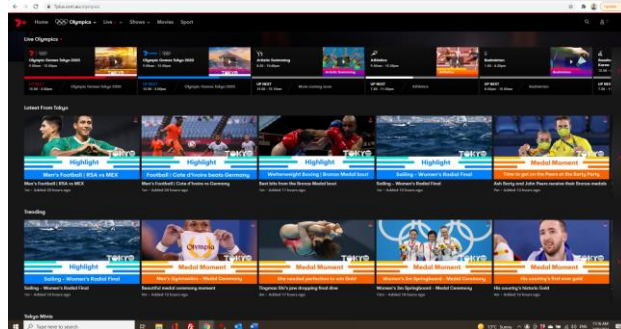
**God of peace, grant a desire for an end to the production of armaments.**

We pray for all who agitate for peace and justice, and we pray that rulers and governments may lead all people to respect the earth and seek a just use of its resources.

**God of peace, may your Kingdom come. Amen**







# INTERCESSORY PRAYERS Ososo / Come Now, O Prince of Peace 209

Capo 3 (Em) (Em/D) (C) (B no 3rd)  
Gm Gm/F E<sup>b</sup> D(no 3rd)

Korean 1 O - so - so o - so - so, pyong-hwa eui im - gum  
2 O - so - so o - so - so, sa - rang eui im - gum

English 1 Come now, O Prince of peace: make us one bod - y.  
2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.

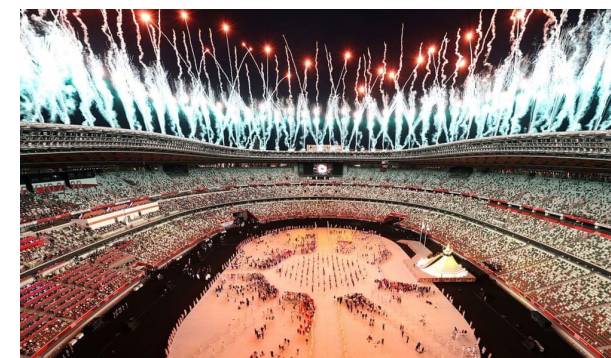
(Am) (B no 3rd) (C) (Em)  
Cm D(no 3rd) E<sup>b</sup> Gm

u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - so.  
u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - so.  
Come, O Lord Je - sus; re - con - cile your peo - ple.  
Come, O Lord Je - sus; re - con - cile your peo - ple.

- 3 Ososo ososo,  
chayu eui ingum,  
uriga hanmom  
iruge hasoso.
- 3 Come now and set us free,  
O God our Savior.  
Come, O Lord Jesus;  
reconcile all nations.
- 4 Ososo ososo  
tongil eui ingum,  
uriga hanmom  
iruge hasoso.
- 4 Come, Hope of unity;  
make us one body.  
Come, O Lord Jesus;  
reconcile all nations.

Text and music: Geonyong Lee (b. 1947); para. Marion Pope (b. 1928)  
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O-SO-SO







## ISAIAH 51-1-6

“Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness  
and who seek the Lord:

Look to the rock from which you were cut  
and to the quarry from which you were hewn;  
look to Abraham, your father,  
and to Sarah, who gave you birth.

“When I called him he was only one man,  
and I blessed him and made him many.

The Lord will surely comfort Zion  
and will look with compassion on all her ruins;  
he will make her deserts like Eden,  
her wastelands like the garden of the Lord.  
Joy and gladness will be found in her,  
thanksgiving and the sound of singing.



## ISAIAH 51-1-6...

“Listen to me, my people;  
hear me, my nation:  
instruction will go out from me;  
my justice will become a light to the nations.

My righteousness draws near speedily,  
my salvation is on the way,  
and my arm will bring justice to the nations.

The islands will look to me  
and wait in hope for my arm.

Lift up your eyes to the heavens,  
look at the earth beneath;  
the heavens will vanish like smoke,  
the earth will wear out like a garment  
and its inhabitants die like flies.

But my salvation will last forever,  
my righteousness will never fail.”



## MATTHEW 5.2-12

‘Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.’

**‘Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.’**

*‘Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.’*

‘Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.’

**‘Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.’**

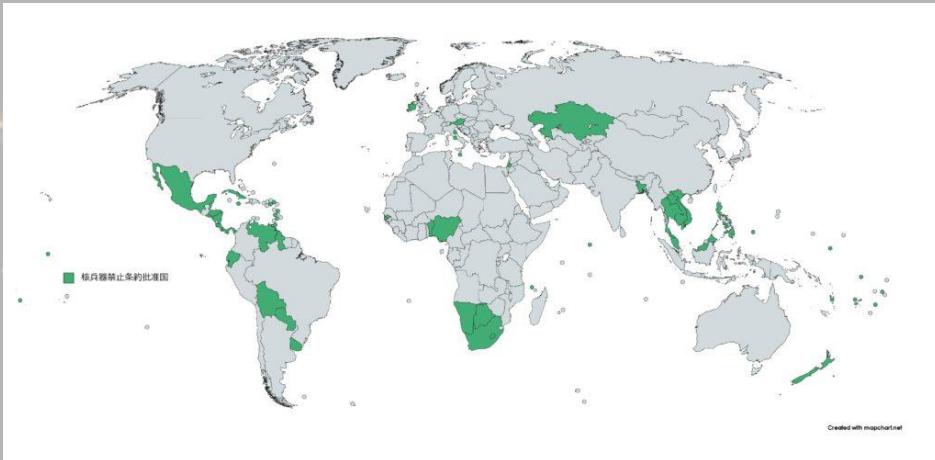
*‘Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.’*

‘Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they will be called children of God.’

**‘Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.’**

*‘Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and  
utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and  
be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way  
they persecuted the prophets who were before you.’*





*(Source: Rev. Nobu Hanaoka)*

## Ending Prayers

O God, the Creator of this beautiful planet  
and all that dwells in it,  
we now pause to remember the souls  
of those who perished in the atomic bombings  
and those who suffer from radiation even now.

We join our hearts and voices together  
to pray for peace everywhere.

May the deadly power of nuclear arsenals  
never be unleashed again upon your sacred creation.  
May such weapons of mass and indiscriminate annihilations  
be forever banned and eliminated from the face of the earth.  
Forgive our silence, O God,  
and enable your Church to raise its prophetic voices  
to speak against the madness of nuclear pursuits anywhere.

**Renew our commitment to be faithful stewards  
of your beautiful creation and vehicles of peace.**

**In the name of Christ, our Prince of Peace. Amen.**



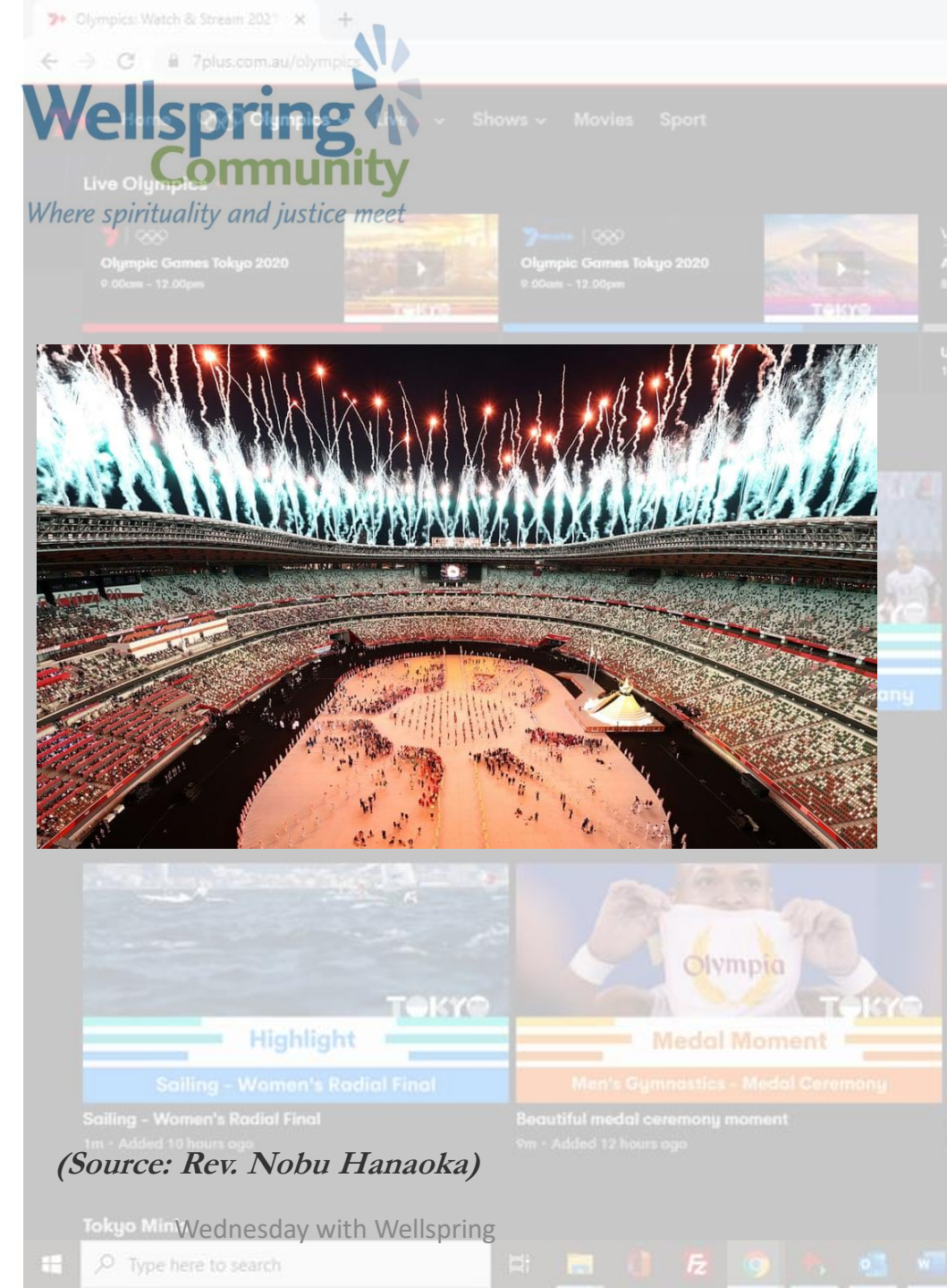
## Ending Prayers ...



### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven ...  
...deliver us from evil.  
Amen.





## Ending Prayers

### Franciscan Blessing

May God bless us with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships, so that we may live deep within our hearts.

May God bless us with righteous anger, at injustice, oppression, and the exploitation of people, so that we may persistently work for justice.

*May God bless us with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war, so that we may reach out our hand to comfort them and to turn their pain into joy.*

May God bless us with enough foolishness to believe that we can make a difference in this world, so that we can do what others claim cannot be done.

**Amen**

Wednesday 4 August 2021



# Petition calls for A-bomb victims to be remembered during Olympics

**KYODO NEWS** - July 22, 2021



A former mayor of Hiroshima has launched an online petition calling for a moment of silence to be observed during the Tokyo Olympics at the time the atomic bomb was dropped on his western Japan city on August 6.



Tadatoshi Akiba. (Kyodo)

Tadatoshi Akiba, 78, launched the Change.org campaign on the day International Olympic Committee chief Thomas Bach visited Hiroshima on July 16, amid opposition from some A-bomb survivors, who said the visit ahead of the Tokyo Games starting Friday was politically motivated.

"He should have no objections to how important it is to spread the message of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to the world," Akiba said, noting that Bach came to Hiroshima in spite of the coronavirus pandemic and opposition from many people.

The petition proposes that athletes and people from around the globe observe a moment of silence at 8:15 a.m. on Aug. 6 to remember not only those who perished in the atomic bombings of the two cities, but all victims of war.

The moment of silence will also express a commitment to making world peace a reality through the abolition of nuclear weapons.

Where spirituality and justice meet

9.00am - 12.00pm

Please feel free to stay online for a few more minutes, if you can, for a time of informal meeting and chat.

Find out more about Wellspring Community from our website or on Facebook.

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