

*Dona Nobis Pacem by InsideOut*

*World Peace Prayer by Marty Haugen & Marc Anderson*

Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth,  
From despair to hope, from fear to trust,  
lead us from hate to love, from war to peace;  
et peace fill our hearts, let peace fill our world, let peace fill our universe.

Still now the angry cries, still now the angry guns,  
Still now your people die, earth's sons and daughters.  
Let justice roll, let mercy pour down,  
come and teach us Your way of compassion.

So many lonely hearts, so many broken lives,  
longing for love to break into their darkness.  
Come, teach us love, come, teach us peace,  
come and teach us Your way of compassion.

Let justice ever roll, let mercy fill the earth,  
let us begin to grow into your people.  
We can be love, we can be peace,  
we can still be Your way of compassion.

## *With Open Hands*



Our prayer is characterized  
by silence ~

*Be still and know that I am God!*

In that silence we listen for a new word.  
God is present in all our lives.  
God cares for us, and  
our life experiences are a source  
of deepening knowledge of God and self.

Inspired by God's Word in the silence  
we share from our hearts.

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*Thank You For Joining Us!*

**Prayer Leader:**

Cheryl Keehner, CSA  
1/10/2017

**Centering Space:**

14812 Lake Ave | Lakewood  
www.centeringspace.org  
216.228.7451  
centeringspace@srsfcharity.org

## To Ponder: *Balthasar Fischer,*

*cited in The Fire of Peace*

On praying with empty, outstretched hands:  
On one occasion I gained new insight into this ancient gesture, when I read somewhere that the Assyrians had a word for prayer which meant “to open the fist.” The fist, and especially a fist raised threateningly, is a sign of a highhanded, even violent person. People grasp things in closed hands when they are unwilling to let go of them; they use clinched fists to assault and hurt and, even worse, to beat others down so that they cannot get up.

Those who pray, however, are saying before God that they are renouncing all highhandedness, all pride in their own sufficiency, all violence. They open their fists. They hold up their empty hands to God: “I have nothing that I have not received from you, nothing that you have not placed in my empty hands. Therefore I do not keep a frantic hold on anything you have given me; therefore, too, I desire not to strike and hurt but only to give and to spread happiness and joy. For I myself am dependent on the One who fills my empty hands with gifts.



## Reading *verses selected from Psalm 89*

*(Merrill, Psalms for Praying)*

I will sing of your steadfast Love, forever, my Beloved;  
with forthright voice I will proclaim your goodness  
to all generations.  
For your abiding Love rules the universe, your faithfulness  
extends throughout the firmament.  
Your covenant from the beginning of time encompasses  
all who walk the path of Love;  
And to all generations that honor your Way and your Truth  
Love will make itself known.

Blessed are those who know your Love, who walk  
in the Light of your countenance.  
Blessed are those who call upon your name and  
extol truth and justice!  
For You are the glory of their strength;  
You give wise counsel.  
Our very lives belong to You.

You have made yourself known to the faith-filled;  
You set them on the path to Peace  
The Gift you sent to teach us Love  
invites us to eternal life!

## *Sharing...*

*a word...*

*a phrase...*

*a reflection...*