

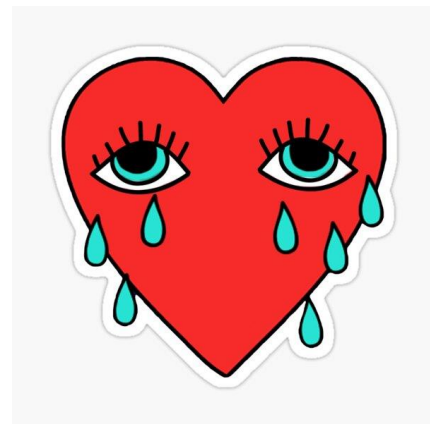
Ukraine in our heart

War has begun in Ukraine. Dark and uncertain times lie ahead, where it seems that the language of bombs, bullets and manipulated information has overtaken any attempt at mediation and dialogue. At the same time, we know of so many other wars in multiple locations around the world.

We add all of these to our prayer for peace. This is what I suggest we do. Nothing more; nothing less. Let us all pray at home, but also in community. Alone, online or through WhatsApp; but let us pray. Praying for peace is a prophetic and humble gesture; an almost subversive one because we wish things were different and we put all our hope in the One who first loved us. There are situations in which we cannot do much, but we know that God loves life and wants his sons and daughters to live in peace. We trust. We wait. On many occasions we have witnessed Faith and Light as a sign of peace in the midst of conflict.

As it states in our Charter: Faith and Light believes that people who are weak or have a disability can become a source of unity in society and in every church - and also between churches and between nations. In Ukraine there are 39 Faith and Light communities. Ukraine is in our hearts. Their fear is our fear; their uncertainty is our uncertainty, and their blood is our own. When a brother in the family suffers, we all suffer. When a brother cries, we offer our shoulder and our whole life if necessary. We also join in the suffering of the communities in Russia and neighbouring countries in this situation.

May God help us to be peacemakers. May he influence the minds of decision makers to stop the war in Ukraine and around the world. May violence not have the last word. May each of us be a peacemaker through our words, deeds and actions.



**Give us the Holy Spirit,
according to your promise,
so that he will make us instruments
of peace and unity,
in this world of war and division.**

Raúl Izquierdo Garcia
International coordinator of Faith and Light

24 February 2022