## Prayer for Iran

Dear Father in heaven, Mother of Creation,

With a broken heart, we pray for the people of Iran. The suffering has taken too long, o Lord.

We thank you for the courage of women, men, and people of any gender, who through violent oppression sing, dance, shout and pray for more freedom in their lives.

For the right to go where they please, with whom or wherever they wish.

We thank you for those who rise for the right to live without fear. We remember Mahsa Amini, Hadis Najafi, Nika Shakarami. We honor them. In their memory, we commemorate all who are silenced or murdered.

We pray for your grace for all who mourn those who died in this struggle. We pray for all who had been arrested.

For everyone who lives in fear for those who have been arrested or have gone missing. For those who are in pain, because they have been wounded while protesting. We pray for all Iranians in our country who feel powerless towards the situation in Iran. For those who are consumed by despair and anger.

More than ever, the people of Iran need hope, o God. Hope that your righteousness will prevail. Hope that those unseen, will be seen, the unheard will be heard. Hope that people all over the world will gather in prayer and will find ways to be of support and relief to the suffering.

May another leadership assert itself, who will keep their people's welfare first. May a just peace prevail.

May Iran be a bud of peace in the world, may Iran bloom into a flower of hope.

God of all peoples, incline your ear and hear our prayer.

Amen