**A Responsive Prayer for Remembrance Day**

The World says, “Revenge is a dish best served cold,” and “an eye for an eye.”

**Jesus says, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.”** [Mt 5:9]

The Spirit of this age says, “Only the strong survive.”

**Jesus says, “Blessed are the humble, for they will inherit the earth.”** [Mt 5:5]

The Devil spreads far and wide his creed: “might is right.”

**Jesus says, “Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.”** [Mt 5:44]

The generals of this world boast of tanks and planes and deterrents and superiority and the military-industrial complex.

**God’s Word says, “Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.”** [Ps 20:7]

The diplomats of this world speak of protection and pacts and treaties and agreements and promises.

**Jesus says, “Love your neighbour as yourself,”** [Mk 12:31] **and “let your yes be yes and your no be no**.” [Mt 5:37]

Father God, we realize that without your grace and restoring love, we are all sons of Cain.

**We all harbour hatred in our hearts until your Spirit transforms us to live and love as you have taught us.**

This broken world still wages wars: nation against nation, governments against their citizens, citizens against governments, tribe against tribe, religion against religion, neighbour against neighbour.

**You are the great reconciler, the great peacemaker who took on yourself the price for peace with your rebellious creation.**

Lord, there are many who have served and many who continue to serve as soldiers, sailors, pilots and support personnel.

**We thank you for their service. We ask you to protect them and their families in the difficult circumstances and responsibilities they undertake.**

*Minute of Silence*

Jesus, you came into this fallen world and suffered all hatred and violence in weakness, overcoming evil with the sacrifice of yourself.

**You “became our peace”** [Eph. 2:14] **and tore the veil between us and yourself, and demolished the walls between us and our fellow human beings.**

May we as your people never be “overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” [Ro 12:21]

**Give us the power of your Spirit to become peacemakers in every home, school, workplace, and community as we live as your children.**

Our hope is your God-sized plan: that “your kingdom would come, and your will would be done on earth as it is in heaven.” [Mt 6:10]

**“And you will wipe away every tear from our eyes; and there shall no longer be death; there shall no longer be mourning, or crying or pain.”** [Re 21:4a] **Amen.**