

Women of Peace and Hope
Prepared by the Mary Queen of the World council

Setting the scene: *The Word of God, prayer table, lectern, 5 candles and plant.*
 During the opening song, the Word of God is enthroned.

Leader: In the name of the Father

All: Spirit of the living God - fall afresh on us.
 Melt us, fill us, use us.

Theme Song: Peace Prayer # 163 in G&P
(Sung as the bible is enthroned on the Prayer Table)

First Reading: John 20:19-23

Reflection: Quiet About 5 minutes
Leader asks the question - What doors of our hearts are not open to peaceful living?
Would anyone like to share what came out of their reflection on the Word and the
question? (About 5 minutes or as long as people wish to share.)

**Each of the five candles is carried in as a verse of “Peace is Flowing like a River” is
being sung. (#162 in Glory & Praise songbook)**

The Candles Represent: (This can be announced or the candles may be tagged)

- Candle 1: Peace in self
- Candle 2: Peace in home
- Candle 3: Peace in community
- Candle 4: Peace in country
- Candle 5: Peace in the world

Psalm: Response: The Lord speaks of peace to his people.

Let me hear what God the Lord will speak
for He will speak peace to his people.
Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him
that his glory may dwell in our land. **Response**

Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.
Faithfulness will spring up from the ground
and hope will look down from the sky **Response**

The Lord will give what is good
and the land will yield its increase.
Righteousness will go before him
and peace will follow along his path. **Response**

Second reading: Luke 1: 46-55

Reflection Quiet

Leader says: God and I can take care of everything that's going to happen today.

Leader:

We will place a plant representing **Hope** on prayer table with the candles while all sing "All My Hope on God is Founded" # 479 CBW III

Intercessions:

Let us ask God's blessings and guidance as we pray to be women of peace and hope.

Response: Spirit of God, fill us with peace and hope.

For the church, called to be witnesses of peace and hope in our world. We pray to the Lord.

For world leaders, working to promote justice and hope in our world. We pray to the Lord.

For all victims of poverty, abuse and violence. We pray to the Lord.

For the young children of our world who suffer from hunger and all kinds of neglect. Let us pray to the Lord.

For members of the Catholic Women's League of Canada, called to be witness to the peace and hope that Christ promises. We pray to the Lord.

For the deceased members of the Catholic Women's League, especially those of our own Council and for all who mourn their loss. We pray to the Lord.

Please feel free to add any intercessions you wish.

We ask these, O God, Provider of Peace and Hope, through the intercession of your Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Concluding prayer:

Let us praise God our Father the many gifts of peace and hope we have received ... Glory be to the Father ... Amen

Closing Hymn: Gentle Woman # 80 in Glory & Praise

Sign of peace.