**Sample Intercessory Prayers**

## Intercessory Prayer 1

*Loving Lord,*

*your care and love are ever present in our lives.*

*We pray for our brothers and sisters throughout the world*

*who live in situations of abuse and violence.*



*Give them hope in their hopelessness;*

*help them find strength in their weakness;*

*grant them freedom from their oppression;*

*transform their brokenness into wholeness;*

*and heal their wounds, visible and invisible.*

*Grant us all the courage and wisdom, grace and humility,*

*to act at all times with compassion and care.*

*And grant all who are harmed by abuse or coercion, peace through justice.*

*This we ask in Jesus name.* ***Amen.***

(Lesley Bayley, Mothers’ Union, Ireland)

## Intercessory Prayer 2

Lord Jesus,

we pray for all to follow your example

of treating women with equality and respect.

We pray for all who live in fear of violence

and despair that life will ever change.

Bring to an end their suffering;

restore their sense of worth.

We pray for those who perpetrate abuse

with no sense of guilt or shame.

Bring to justice their actions;

change their inner hearts.

We pray against regimes

that endorse violence against women.

Shatter their evil influence;

initiate a rule of decency.

Loving Lord,

we pray for a better world

where justice and peace may flourish. **Amen** *MU 16 Days Resources 2014*

## Intercessory Prayer 3

Lord of justice and mercy,

who has called us to be the body of Christ,

use us as his hands and feet in the world;

to raise awareness of what must be challenged,

and to address the plight of the vulnerable.

We unite together across the world

to champion the cause of  justice

and to offer up our prayers for all who

are affected by gender-based violence. **Amen**

*MU 16 Days resources, 2021*

## Intercessory Prayer 4

Compassionate God,

may those experiencing all forms of violence

be given courage, hope and the means

to break free from their abuse.

We pray for all who live in fear of violence

and despair that life will ever change:

Bring to an end their suffering;

restore their sense of worth.

Bring to light deeds of abuse hidden in darkness,

that they may find safety and refuge, free from fear.

We pray for all to follow your example

of treating women with equality and respect.

We pray for the dawn of a better world

where justice and peace may flourish. **Amen**

*2020 MU 16 Days Resources*

## Intercessory Prayer 5

**United in resolve**

**our voices join together**

**to speak out for the voiceless,**

**and proclaim the righteousness of God.**

God of justice and righteousness,

use us to speak against domestic abuse

with a clear and challenging voice

in a world where the vulnerable strive to be heard.

May our voices be heard in places of influence

on behalf of those who suffer in silence.

Make us strong and effective advocates

for those whose voice is too weak to be heard.

**We worship our holy Lord;**

**we pray for his kingdom on earth.**

**May his justice set the captives free**

**and his righteousness reign forever. Amen**

*(MU Global Day prayers 2020)*

## Intercessory Prayer 6

**Loving Lord, we draw near in faith**

**trusting not in the strength of our prayers**

**but in your power to answer.**

We pray for the work of our members worldwide to combat domestic abuse;

for their highlighting of the issue, their petitioning of governments

and their work with victims and survivors.

As a global family we embrace our mission to share your love

through speaking out for the vulnerable.

Help us play our part in creating a just and equal society

**Loving Lord, we draw near in faith.**

**We pray for the dawn of a better world**

**where all may live in safety. Amen**

*(MU Global Day prayers 2020)*

## Intercessory Prayer 7

We worship you, the God of love:

You hold the world in tender embrace,

You feel the hurt and sorrow we bear,

You comfort the wounded heart.

We thank you that in Jesus Christ

You held women in high esteem,

You understood their secret heartaches,

You inspired their love and trust.

We praise you, the Spirit of truth:

You uncover the lies and distortions,

You name the violence in our hearts,

You seek to transform the pain.

O God, we ask that you will reveal

The persistent wrong in our lives,

The reality we choose to ignore,

The abuse we tolerate of other people.

Change our heart and our lives, we pray,

 That your image may grow in us

And in those we love. Amen

*MU 16 Days Resources, 2017*

## Intercessory Prayer 8

Loving Lord,

hear our cries for justice

and break the chains of abuse

that all may live in safety.

Loving Lord,

hear our cries for righteousness

and break the chains of oppression

that all may live in freedom

*We take a moment in the quiet to bring our own prayers to God.*

Loving Lord,

hear our cries for mercy

and break the chains of fear

that all may live in peace. **Amen**

*(MU 16 Days Resources, 2021)*