

Jubilee Action!

Stand Up, Take Action Pledge

Leader: I ask you now to Stand Up with me against poverty and recite this pledge.

All: We stand now with millions around the world on this symbolic day to show our commitment to the fight against extreme poverty and inequality. We stand now because we refuse to accept more excuses in a world where 50,000 people die every day as a result of extreme poverty. We stand now because as people of faith we value the lives of all people.

As a Jubilee people, we are standing because we believe that debt cancellation and the creation of more just economic policies are essential to ending global poverty and renewal of right relationships between peoples.

Today and every day we will stand up and take action against poverty. We will continue to pray for those in poverty and for our world leaders. We will continue to work to fight against poverty and injustice throughout the world. We stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters around the world to say: End poverty now!

An Action for use in a Jubilee Sunday service, interfaith event, dialogue or potluck:

This responsive reading and prayer may be used independently or as part of your worship service or education hour on Jubilee Sunday. You may consider including it during your time of prayer, during the sending rite or announcement time, or at the beginning or end of your service. You could also replace the congregational responses with a setting of the Kyrie (Lord, have mercy...).

Leader: When God's people entered the Promised Land at the city of Jericho, you commanded them to sound the trumpet and cry out together and shout with a loud voice. At the sound of their cry you brought the walls crashing down. As we cry out today, linking our voices with millions of others around the world, we ask you to bring down the walls that keep people in poverty. *(Begin ringing church bells throughout to proclaim the message beyond your walls).*

Leader: People in our world are hungry for bread.

People: We cry out - End poverty now!

Leader: People in our world do not have clean water.

People: We cry out - End poverty now!

Leader: People in our world die every day from preventable diseases.

People: We cry out - End poverty now!

Leader: People in our world are separated from their homes and their families by war, violence and economic need.

People: We cry out - End poverty now!

Leader: People in our world are unable to access basic education.

People: We cry out - End poverty now!

Leader: People in our world are being hurt by our destruction of the environment.

People: We cry out - End poverty now!

Leader: Let us pray... Mighty God, you have heard the cries of your people throughout history.

Hear our cries now as we seek to end poverty in our world. Strengthen our voices as we continue to speak for justice. Strengthen our hands that we may continue to work for the most vulnerable in your world.

Open our ears to hear the cries of those in poverty and open our mouths to speak with them. In Jesus' name, Amen.