

Prayer for Justice and Peace

May the One who demands justice
inspire us to become *rodfei tzedek*,
pursuers of justice
in our lives and in our communities.

Give us the courage to resist
those who wield their power
through fear and dread
and the strength to work for the liberation
of all who are oppressed.

Show us once and for all
how to dismantle the oppressive systems
that we ourselves are complicit in creating;
at home and abroad, may we
lay down our weapons of death
and bequeath a future of blessing and promise
to our children.

Let us tear down the borders
between communities and nations –
the checkpoints, detention centers and refugee camps
that all who are dispossessed
may find their way home.

And may we forever affirm that no religion,
creed or ideology is worthy of your name
as long as it venerates cruelty and injustice
and marginalizes the most vulnerable among us.

May our thoughts and our hopes,
our words and our deeds
guide us toward a future of justice
that there may be peace
al kol yoshvei teivel
for all who dwell on earth.

(Rabbi Brant Rosen)