

Prayer for those who seek an end to sexual violence

God of peace, you give courage to those who work for peace, and you strengthen the hands of those who bind up those hurt and harmed by violence and war.

We thank you for Nadia Murad and Denis Mukwege, who have won the Nobel Peace Prize. Their voices and their actions highlight the horrific ways sexual violence is used as a weapon of war. We thank you for their courage and their perseverance in the face of opposition and threat. Give us the courage to join our voices to theirs in speaking against these atrocities and those who condone such actions.

We pray for the Yazidis and all people who face religious persecution throughout the world, may Murad and all those facing persecution find hope.

We thank you for the Christian faith that led Dr. Mukwege to become a doctor as he sought to help those people for whom his father, a pastor, prayed.

We pray for an end to violence in Iraq and Syria; in Congo; so that all people, especially women, can live free from fear.

These things we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, the Prince of peace. Amen.