

PRAYER FOR EUROPE

1. Adoration

Father in Heaven,

You are a great and holy God! You hold this world and the destiny of the nations in your hands.

Through your love and creative Word you've called them into existence.

In the same way, you also direct the nations of Europe and lead everything towards your goal. You will bring this world to completion, according to your wonderful plan.

We worship you, holy God, "For from you and through you and to you are all things. To you be honour and glory forever." (Rom 11:36).

2. Thanks

Father in Heaven,

We thank you for all the blessings you have given to Europe, our continent.

You have brought the gospel to Europe, and you have based our continent on your word.

We thank you for giving us decades of peace after the Second World War

We thank you for the European Union and the way the peoples of Europe work together.

We thank you for tearing down the wall between East and West.

We thank you for the liberty we experience, and for prosperity you have bestowed upon us.

We thank you for our constitution and the democratic state under the rule of law in our countries, for science, culture and ministries of charity, and for the beauty of our nations and cities. For all of this we thank you from the bottom of our hearts, for your Word says, "Whoever offers praise glorifies Me; and to him who orders his conduct aright, I will show the salvation of God." (Psalm 50:23).

3. Asking forgiveness

Father in Heaven,

Despite your grace we have failed miserably.

Forgive us for we have failed as Christians.

Forgive us for neglecting our politicians by refraining from praying for them. Here, we did not take over responsibility.

We also bow down before you on behalf of the sins of our representatives in the EU

Institutions, who decided no longer to recognize your sovereignty and who did not want to allow the reference to God in the Preamble of the European Constitution.

We also beg you to forgive us for setting up all kinds of egoism and nationalism, which put a strain on Europe and tear Europe's unity apart.

We ask you to forgive us allowing so many refugees to die on their path to Europe.

We bow down and confess that we regard financial issues as much more important than your kingship and your sense of solidarity, love and mercy.

We ask forgiveness and healing for our peoples, since you say: "If my people, who are called by my name will humble themselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and heal their land" (2 Chronicles 7:14).

4. Intercessions

Father in Heaven,

Because you love the people of our continent, we ask your Holy Spirit to awaken anew the nations of Europe.

We ask you for a spiritual renewal of your church. And we ask you to spread out your kingship in all governments, in economy and the world of finance, and in all institutions of the European people, and over all areas of society at national and European levels so that "Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." (Matthew 6:10).

[further intercessions]

5. God's kingship

Father in Heaven,

We call your kingship over Europe and praise the name of Jesus over our peoples.

We praise the name of Jesus, the name above of all names. "Every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." (Phil 2:10-11).

You are the master of the world. This world and our continent do not slip from your grasp. Therefore, we pray to you with the words your son has granted us: "Our father in heaven..."

6. Blessing

Father in Heaven,

As Your messengers, we now bless the countries, the persons in authority, and the people who have their homeland on the continent of Europe. May Your salvation and your healing, your justice and your truth, your hope and your peace come upon them.

Your will is to do good things for us, for you say: "The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up His face upon you and give you peace" (Numbers 6:24-26).

2021 Gerhard Proß reworking the original of Ortwin Schweitzer 2012

On March 24th (2017) this prayer lead us during a prayer session at S. Maria in Ara Coeli (Rome) celebrating 60th anniversary of the EU