

Fair Trade Prayers – various sources

Prayer for fair trade

As I enter the street market
wheel my trolley at the superstore
leaf through a catalogue, or log on to the internet:
be with me and help me.
When I spend money
be with me and help me
to see the market place as you see it
as wide as the world you love so much.
Be with us and help us
to share the markets we share
for all people.
As we live under your steady gaze,
so we can change, by your gracious love.
Amen

(Source: Christian Aid, UK)

Dear God, We pray for those people around the world who produce the things we eat and buy. We pray that they get a fair price for the things we buy from them. We pray that we can help support these people by buying Fairtrade goods so that we can help create a better and more just world.

(Fairtrade School Assembly – Caritas Australia)

*Creator God,
You created a beautiful world for all your children.
As we taste and smell the fruits of this creation
help us to remember those who farm the land to grow them.
Help us live in a partnership of love and support
with those who produce our food and drink
so that we might enable others to feed their families
and create a sustainable future.
Amen*

(Diocese of Exeter)

God of love and justice, we give thanks for the gifts planted in all of us. We remember the power we embody when we share these gifts: the compassion and understanding, the fire, and the vigour.

We honour your Word living within us, inspiring people to protest at greed, to work for justice, to passionately share their resources and cherish all life.

Yours is the outspoken love, Yours is the outrageous hope, Yours is the extravagant mercy.
So to you be the honour and the power and the glory,
Amen.

(Fairtrade Foundation Church Action Guide, 2016)

This prayer is taken from the material Traidcraft has produced to celebrate Fairtrade Fortnight. For more resources, worship material and stories visit: www.traidcraft.co.uk/big-brew

As we boil our kettle and prepare our brew...

Make us mindful of those whose livelihoods depend on us:

The farmers, planters and pickers,

The packers, dealers and merchants,

The transporters, blenders, shop assistants and supermarket owners. Let it be for us a matter of simple justice and fair trade.

We pray especially for ... (mention local shops and retailers)

As we drink from our next cup...

Make us mindful of the many places we share this brew with:

China, Sri Lanka and India,

Kenya, Malawi and Indonesia,

From the past and the present.

Let it be for us a matter of simple justice and fair trade

We pray especially for ... (mention some of the producers featured in the material from Traidcraft or those in The People Behind Your Cuppa fact sheets).

As we take time to share our next tea break together...

Make us mindful of the times when we have sat down and chatted.

Sharing in friendship

Pouring out our hurts

And enjoying a laugh

Let it be for us a matter of simple justice and fair trade

We pray especially for those known to us who need our prayers at the time... (silent or open prayer)

As we purchase our next packet of tea...

Make us mindful of the benefits of fair trade

The farmers and producers whose lives and communities have been transformed

Through fair wages, good working conditions and the extra security that comes with fair trade certification

And the organisations work tirelessly to achieve trade justice

Help us to support them, both practically and in prayer as they seek to support some of the world's poorest producers Let it be for us a matter of simple justice and fair trade.

Amen.

Fairtrade Foundation Church Action Guide, 2016:

Creator God,

You created a beautiful world for all your children. As we taste and smell the fruits of this creation help us to remember those who farm the land to grow them. Help us live in a partnership of love and support with those who produce our food and drink so that we might enable others to feed their families and create a sustainable future.

Amen.

Loving God, you make us in your image.

Forgive us when we fail to see your image in each other, when we give in to greed and indifference when we do not question the systems that are life-denying. As we are made in your image, let us live in your image and be Christ-like in service, endurance and love.

Fair Trade

Lord we thank you for this world which you created, which you love, and which you are reconciling to yourself.

In a world where unjust global trade laws and unrighteous western consumerism darken the plight of those without influence and without a voice,

Make us a holy people.

Make us aware of the effects of our spending habits,

Make us God-fearing and righteous in the way that we go shopping.

May we worship you not only as we focus on you here today, but as we wander around the shops and tomorrow. May we seek to please you not only with our praises today, but with our choice of brands tomorrow.

May we honour you not only as we gather here today, but as we pack our shopping tomorrow.

May our spending habits bring health and healing to this world.

Forgive us for the part we play in exploiting the distant poor by the way that we shop.

Help us instead to support a ministry of true retail therapy, where healing and wholeness are experienced not merely by those who buy, but by those who produce our goods.

In the sweat shops that make our clothes, Amongst the slaves who produce our chocolate,

On the plantations that produce our coffee and tea, Bring the light of justice and economic fairness,

By your grace, enable us to live in such a way that may we help and not hinder your work of reconciling the world to you.

[A prayer for Fair Trade](#)

As I enter the street market

Wheel my trolley at the superstore

Leaf through a catalogue, or logon to the internet:

Be with me and help me

When I spend money

Be with me and help me

To see the market place as you see it

As wide as the world you love so much

Be with us and help us

To share the markets we share

For all people.

As we live under your steady gaze,

So we can change, by your gracious love.

Amen.

God of love and justice, we give thanks for the gifts planted in all of us. We remember the power we embody when we share these gifts: the compassion and understanding, the fire, and the vigour.

We honour your Word living within us, inspiring people to protest at greed, to work for justice, to passionately share their resources and cherish all life.

Yours is the outspoken love,

Yours is the outrageous hope,

Yours is the extravagant mercy.
So to you be the honour and the power and the glory,
Amen.

Intercessory prayer from Fair Trade Fortnight - from the FairTrade Foundation
<https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Full-service-FT-Fortnight-Ecumenical-Service-of-Worship.docx>

We pray for farmers and producers across the world who are living with the ravages and fear of climate change threatening their livelihoods and income.

We pray for families and children who see their crops fail because of storms, floods and drought and who live from day to day not knowing from where their next meal will come.

We pray for world leaders and scientists – having seen how politicians are able to respond to emergencies like Covid-19 with substantial funding and support – we pray that they will also respond to the climate emergency with the same level of speed, commitment and investment to enable countries to recover from the pandemic sustainably, cleanly and fairly.

We pray for organisations working in poor communities to find and promote new ways of farming to protect the environment and to enable the sustainable development of community life. We pray for ourselves – that our commitment to justice may bear fruit in our lives, in the choices we make and in the priorities we set ourselves.

We pray for the Fairtrade movement – for all who campaign and spread the message. May our love for each other and for your creation deepen our commitment and determination so that our voices will be heard more loudly and that the impact of our campaigning will increase.

We ask these things in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Anna Jane Evans