O Jehovah Shalom, Lord of Peace, you promise that a time is coming when nations will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. How we long for that day. Help us, and especially those in positions of power, to renounce the fear that leads us to develop ever more destructive weaponry. We pray for our brothers and sisters who finance, produce and sell weapons. May your compassion touch them and redirect their energies and talents to activities that give life and not take life.

O Lord the Peacemaker, you declare that an era is coming when nation will no longer take up arms against others. We long for that day. Help us, and especially those in positions of power, to choose dialogue over destruction, to restrain military might, to refuse to attack the attackable, to recognise that vengeance begets violence.

O Prince of Peace come - deliver us from the temptation to threaten and to destroy. Come - make us peacemakers.

Amen