

Prayer Topic #1:
A Prayer for Hope and Healing in Colorado

Scripture Reading:
Psalm 65, Hebrews 4:14-16

Reflections of the Heart:

The tragic news of the recent shootings in a movie theater in Aurora, Colorado is heart-breaking. But, it is at times like this that we can rely on the Holy Spirit to draw us together as a community and as a nation to give the best of ourselves in the darkest of circumstances.

Scriptural Prayer:

Beloved Father, we thank You for Your loving care for the people of Aurora, Colorado during this time of grief and despair. Thank You for the power of Your love that has shown up through the outpouring of compassion for this community. Thank You, Father, for blessing those who trust in You, who have made You their hope and confidence. Thank You for loving us so much that You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ to redeem us from a life of despair and hopelessness. Gracious Father, we praise You with all of our hearts. You merely spoke and the heavens were created. You breathed the word and all of the stars were born. Your plans stand firm forever and Your intentions can never be shaken. You are an awesome God!

Loving Father, our country is experiencing the aftermath of this tragic shooting. Lives have been destroyed in Aurora, Colorado. Today, we cry out for the families of the people who have died. We declare that You, alone, are their refuge and place of safety. You are their God and they can trust in You. The Name of the Lord is a strong fortress and those who run to You will find spiritual, emotional, and psychological protection. We confess that even though the victims and families may feel pressure on every side by this tragedy, they will not be crushed and broken. They may feel perplexed, but they will not give up and quit. They may feel like life is about to run them over, but they will not be abandoned by You. We recognize that their lives have been knocked down by this crime, but we decree that they will get up and keep going. In Jesus' Name, we cancel the assignments of the spirits of anger, vengeance, bitterness, murder and rage. As Kingdom citizens, we render these spirits powerless. We declare that no weapon formed against the people of Colorado will succeed, and we silence every voice that has risen against them.

Pray for all of the families who are suffering in the wake of this tragedy:

Holy Spirit, help each victim and family to heal, especially the parents, spouses and children. Help them to get through the upcoming days, weeks, and months. Let Your love and presence saturate their hearts, souls and spirits. Please send people who will love, support, and comfort them. God, our Healer, please provide healing and speedy recovery to every victim who is in the hospital or recovering at home. Heal their physical, emotional, and psychological wounds. Heal the wounds that have been inflicted in the souls of the people of Aurora, Colorado. Guide the hearts of the judge, prosecutor, defense attorney, FBI agents, police officers, witnesses, and all those who are involved in the ongoing investigation and criminal trial. We expect every detail of the legal process to be done decently and in order.

Forgiving Father, forgive the sins of the people of Aurora, Colorado. Forgive the sins of the suspect, James Holmes. Forgive those in the media who have misinformed the public about the details of this tragedy, causing greater fear and panic. Forgive those who may have noticed warning signs of impending danger, but failed to take heed and speak up. Forgive those who seek to capitalize in any way off of the grief of the Aurora community. Lord, forgive me for ***(list any sins that You have committed)***. Holy Spirit, remind us of all those we need to forgive and help us to be quick to forgive. As for me, Holy Spirit, bring to my remembrance those I need to forgive. ***(Take a moment and ask the Holy Spirit to show You names or faces of people that You may need to forgive. As He shows You, say aloud, "I forgive name of person(s)." Now, trust the Lord to heal any wounds in Your soul caused by unforgiveness.)***

Holy Spirit, help us all to not yield to temptation; but deliver us from the evil one.

Magnificent Lord, when You spoke, the world began! It appeared at Your command. You look down from heaven and see the whole human race. From Your throne, You observe all who live on the earth. O Lord, our Lord, Your majestic Name fills the earth! In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture References for the Written Text: John 3:16, Psalm 33:6, 11, Psalm 91:2, Proverbs 18:10,2 Corinthians 4:8-9, Isaiah 54:17, I Corinthians 14:40, Matthew 6:13, Psalm 33:9,13-14, Psalm 8:9

Today I will trust God to:
