

Explore the Theme — “Sow Peace”

Take a moment to contemplate the global implications of war in Ukraine and
“let your heart break for this world”

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Russian war against Ukraine in ‘world’s breadbasket’ may threaten global food supply

THE TIMES OF ISRAEL, March 6, 2022



BARCELONA, Spain (AP) — The Russian tanks and missiles besieging Ukraine also are threatening the food supply and livelihoods of people in Europe, Africa and Asia who rely on the vast, fertile farmlands of the Black Sea region — known as the “breadbasket of the world.”

Ukrainian farmers have been forced to neglect their fields as millions flee, fight or try to stay alive. Ports are shut down that send wheat and other food staples worldwide to be made into bread, noodles and animal feed. And there are worries Russia, another agricultural powerhouse, could have its grain exports upended by Western sanctions.

While there have not yet been global disruptions to wheat supplies, prices have surged 55% since a week before the invasion amid concerns about what could happen next. If the war is prolonged, countries that rely on affordable wheat exports from Ukraine could face shortages starting in July, International Grains Council director Arnaud Petit told The Associated Press.

Let your heart break for this world.

Do not be afraid to stay there at the wound of the world,
weeping with those who weep.

There is infinite strength and blessing there.

But bear your sorrow gently;

it is held by the One who weeps for us

Take courage. Do not despair at the oppressors,
who are captive to the spirit of pride and violence.

Bear your outrage lightly; do not cling to it.

Let it lead you toward compassion, not anger.

Let every breath be an offering.

We have been sent to make gentle this wounded world,
to dwell as healers among fearful souls,
to shine light in this darkness.

Don't despair that you are unable.

It is not you who does this work: it is God in you.

When you touch the world's pain God enters you.

Let your tears be healing rains that bring life.

You breathe gentleness into the air that all others breathe,

in the earth we all share you sow peace.

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