

Afghanistan

How can we respond?



Pray

Loving God

We lift before you the situation in Afghanistan
Praying that you will transform it with your love
and grace.

Turn the hearts of those who are violent
That they may become seekers of peace.
Grant your comfort and strength
To all who are experiencing loss and fear.
Protect all who are vulnerable to persecution.
Fill everyone who follows you
With your peace, wisdom and strength,
And help them to know at all times
The reality of your presence with them.

Grant to the leaders of our nation and all nations
Wisdom as they respond
And a willingness to offer sanctuary
To people whose lives are in danger.
Open the hearts of all people,
To see your image in each person,
To honour their humanity,
To welcome new-found neighbours.
May we serve them
As we would serve Christ,
Who also was forced from his home
And sought a safe haven among strangers.

We ask this in His name. Amen.

Further prayers and prayer suggestions:

Christian Aid – [Prayer for Afghanistan](#)
The Methodist Church – [Prayer for Afghanistan](#)
Digital Nun - [How do we pray about Afghanistan?](#)
Baptist World Aid Australia – [Prayer PowerPoint](#)
CAFOD – [CAFOD prays for Afghanistan](#)
Church of England – [Prayers for the World](#)
Diocese of Oxford – [Prayers on Forced Migration](#)
Open Doors: [Prayer update](#)
Pete Greig, founder of 24/7 Prayer – [Suggestions](#)

Act

The most urgent need is for advocacy. We welcome the Government's work to assist some of those most at risk and their offer of sanctuary to 5,000 Afghans in the next year (20,000 in the long term) through the [Afghan Citizens' Resettlement Scheme](#) - but the offers don't meet the needs. In addition, gaps in the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy ([ARAP](#)), which covers staff employed locally by the UK Government, leave many people who worked with the UK at risk. And the situations of Afghans in the UK, their families, and those who make their own journeys to seek asylum need to be addressed.

We have a moral duty to do more. Please write to your MP in support of a more generous and compassionate response and contact your local authority urging them to take resettled Afghan refugees. Some suggested points for writing to Government can be found in [this letter](#). For more information, check our website: www.ccow.org.uk

When they arrive, people who have been evacuated to the UK will have left everything behind and will need practical support. You can be part of providing – or helping others provide – what's needed. Consult our website to find out how to help locally and [join the Welcome Churches Network](#) for their updates.

Give

A selection of appeals for work in and around Afghanistan (For more information, see our website)
[British Red Cross](#) (relief and medical supplies)
[Tearfund](#) (relief packages)
[Unicef](#) (assistance for children)
[UN Refugees](#) (UNHCR – relief for displaced people)

For work in the UK
[Welcome Churches](#) (support for local churches offering welcome)