

## Fair Trade

Prayers and worship resources on the theme of 'Fair Trade' – updated January 2014



## Fairtrade Fortnight

*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](http://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.

## 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.

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The Baptist Union of Great Britain (BUGB) is changing its legal status from a charitable unincorporated association to a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO). From 1 January 2020, BUGB will operate as a CIO with registered charity number 1181392.

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