

Day 2 — Thursday, October 22: Peace and Safety

Peace That Guards Our City

Key Verse

“You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.”

— Isaiah 26:3 (NIV)

Prayer Walk Focus

Anxiety and a sense of unease touch homes on every street — financial pressure, uncertainty, and fear for personal safety. Today, pray for the peace of God to flood the homes and streets you pass, and for Ballarat to be a city where people feel genuinely safe.

Suggested Prayer Points

Peace in anxious homes — Pray for households wrestling with worry, financial pressure or uncertainty, that God's peace would guard their hearts and minds.

Safety on our streets — Pray for protection over neighbourhoods and a real reduction in crime; for police and emergency services to serve with wisdom and integrity; and for anyone who feels unsafe — at home or in public — to know God's protection.

Peace for children and young people — Lift up students and young people facing pressure at school, online and at home. Pray they would know their security is found in Christ.

Wisdom for those who care — Pray for GPs, counsellors, therapists and crisis services across Ballarat — for wisdom, compassion and enough capacity to meet the need.

Declaring peace over your street — As you pass each house, speak peace over it: "The peace of Christ rule in this home" (cf. Colossians 3:15).

Worship Songs

“Peace Be Still” — Hillsong Worship (2020) [► Listen on YouTube](#)

“Even If” — MercyMe (2018) [► Listen on YouTube](#)

“Prince Of Peace” — Hillsong UNITED (2016) [► Listen on YouTube](#)

Extended Scripture Reading

Philippians 4:4–9 — *Rejoice, pray, receive peace, and think on what is good.*

Psalms 91:1–6 — *Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High rests in the shadow of the Almighty.*

Isaiah 41:10–13 — *"Fear not, for I am with you... I will strengthen you and help you."*

Extended Devotional: Peace in an Anxious City

We live in an anxious age, and Ballarat is not exempt. News cycles, cost-of-living pressure, and stories of crime or unrest leave many in a low-grade state of unease, if not outright fear. Paul's remedy in Philippians 4 is striking: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." He does not minimise the pressure — he redirects it.

And then what happens? "The peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." The word guard is military language — a garrison standing watch. God's peace does not merely calm us; it protects the very faculties that anxiety and fear attack: the heart and the mind.

This peace is not the absence of real danger or real pressure; it is the presence of God in the middle of them. Safety, in the fullest sense, is not only the absence of threat but the presence of a God who is our refuge — as Psalm 91 puts it, a shelter, a shadow, a fortress.

As you walk today, you will pass homes where fear has set up camp — perhaps over a break-in down the street, a diagnosis, a job loss, or simply the noise of the world. Pray that God's garrison of peace would surround hearts and minds, and that Ballarat would become a city where people genuinely feel, and are, safe.

Pray too for those who carry the practical weight of our city's safety — police, ambulance and fire crews, and those staffing crisis lines through the night. Ask God to sustain them and give them wisdom beyond their years of training.