

**Prayers for South Sudan**

South Sudan has marked the fifth anniversary of its independence with renewed hostilities and fears the country stands on the brink of a second civil war.

The Churches connected with South Sudan are calling on people to pray for the people of South Sudan, that they be sheltered from renewed violence and ethnic conflict.

One Church leader has said:

*A fragile ceasefire appears to be holding, but movement is restricted and the situation remains tense. We welcome the strong message the United Nations is giving that the violence must stop, and we can only hope the UN Security Council backs this up with action to help maintain calm. The problems people in South Sudan are facing often receive little attention in the wider media, and we hope people across the church will take time to reflect and pray on the difficult situation they are facing.”*

**Prayer points for South Sudan**

* Pray that the peace agreement will be implemented and a lasting ceasefire will be reached.
* Pray for the 2.2 million people who have been forced to flee their homes.
* Pray for those who have lost loved one in the fighting and attacks.
* Pray that food and essential items will be put in place for communities, especially those in hardest to reach areas.
* Pray for Christian Aid partners working in the areas worst affected by the violence.
* Pray for the South Sudan Council of Churches and the churches, and the courageous work they are doing to spread powerful messages of peace.
* Pray for the 3.9 million people currently in need of urgent humanitarian assistance in South Sudan.
* Pray that the international community will provide the immediate assistance and longer-term support needed by the people of South Sudan.

