

God of all.

We turn to you and pray because we hold fiercely to the belief that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

We take this moment to still our bodies, to quiet our minds, to listen to our souls and to your Spirit.

We take these moments to breathe and to offer all that is swirling and stuck, aching and bursting within us into your loving hands.

We hold our world out to you.

We see and hear and feel its brokenness.

Humanitarian Crisis in Yemen, Somalia, Venezuela, Libya, Myanmar, Nigeria, Sudan

Environmental crisis - Typhoons, hurricanes, fires and floods destruction and death fill the headlines.

Economic crisis in Uganda and Mozambique and Haiti and Ethiopia, in so many countries, babies go to bed hungry.

Political crisis rage across this beautiful and pain-filled world in Burkina Faso, Israel, Syria, Venezuela, Ukraine and just next door in the United States.

May we remember as we weep for these atrocities that each human life is sacred - and that we belong to each other - Break our hearts for what breaks yours we pray and move us to passionate, wisdom led action.

We look across our country and we see inequity and racism and poverty. We see bitter fighting, senseless loss and injustice. We see the suicide and the opioid crisis' and homelessness and missing and murdered indigenous women and girls.

{Grant, Oh God,
That your holy and life-giving Spirit
May so move every human heart,
That barriers which divide us may crumble,
Suspensions disappear,
And hatreds cease;
That our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace.
1979 Book of Common Prayer}

We look within our homes, and hearts and see that
Many of us are hurting and burdened by

Broken relationships
Mental illness
Loneliness
Sickness
Financial worries
Job loss
Uncertainty
Anxiety
Fear

In your mercy and by your Spirit

Heal our broken hearts and wounded bodies

Fill us with the courage to forgive

Sustain us and companion us

Bring us your peace

Please.

We place all these concerns in your hands and as we do we remember that though suffering seems to be everywhere - good is not overwhelmed.

We see a beautiful, amazing world filled with caring communities and astonishing people.

May we find our hope in your presence all around us.

In people who love us and care for strangers.

In the frost on the grass, in the sunrise and in the slowly changing season.

In a text message, in a phone call, in the masked smile of a stranger.

God of steadfast love respond to our prayers and move in our souls we pray.

Amen