

A Psalm of Peace¹

The times are crying out for Jesus the Peacemaker
We are overwhelmed by the violence of our day
Though outraged,
 we are helpless,
 filled with fear,
 and blind to avenues of hope.

We confess our unique captivity as willing participants in the very things we decry:
 the lust for material goods,
 the dominate lifestyle that marginalizes others,
 and the comforts we relish.

O God, tell us why?
 Why nations are unwilling or unable to stop the killing, the torture, the
 destruction?
 Why in your world of abundance, millions continue to starve?
 Why we, your people, remain docile before heartless rulers?

Give us the courage to acknowledge
 our complacency,
 complicity,
 and our clueless ness
 in the grievous issues that plague our world.

Speak to us
 of your pursuit of justice,
 your gift of hope,
 your loving mercy,
 your thirst for peace!

Restore us as your anointed people.
Send your Spirit to free us...
 so that we can bring good news,
 transform brokenness into blessedness,
 living as your servants in the world.

Affirm in us your call to be Peacemakers
 so that generations to come may proclaim the name of the Lord!

¹ At the 2007 Presbyterian Peacemaking Conference, a small group of participants gathered with an expressed desire to create a 'response' to the experience they had shared. This Psalm is a result of that gathering and is offered as a gift to the wider church community.