

**A Reading Inspired by Luke 10:25-37**  
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**Presbyterian Peacemaking Conference**  
**June 13, 2009**

- Voice 1: A man was going from Jerusalem to Jericho
- Voice 2: People were going down Route 66; down Peachtree Street and North Avenue; down Any Street, Every Avenue, and dirt roads with no name;
- Voice 3: From Atlanta to Kirkuk; from Diagonal, Iowa to Lilongwe, Malawi; from Bethlehem, Pennsylvania to Bethlehem in the Occupied Palestinian Territories; from Juarez to Gaza; from Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo to La Oroya, Peru; from Jaffna, Sri Lanka and Pyongyang, North Korea; from Tehran to Jerusalem; From my house to my neighbor's houses; from our houses to our neighbor's houses. people were walking; alone and together; people were walking.
- Voice 1: And the man fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead.
- Voice 3: And the people fell into the hands of robbers – and were chased by the dogs of war – and knew the pain of hunger – and were violated by trafficking –
- Voice 2: and the people endured the heartbreak of AIDS – and were trapped in the crossfire of gun violence – and experienced the pain of broken relationships – and were divided by walls and driven from their homes
- Voice 3: In countless ways, the people were battered by other people and crushed by systems of empire.
- Voice 1: A priest and a Levite came along the Jericho road and passed by. But a Samaritan, travelling that same way, stopped and cared for the one who had been wounded
- Voice: 2: But a Presbyterian while traveling . . . many Presbyterians while traveling . . .
- Voice 3: . . . the boulevards and avenues, the highways and byways, the streets and dirt roads with no names that crisscross God's world. . .
- Voice 2: Presbyterians coming from under a Big Tent . . .
- Voice 3: Where they had prayed and studied and prayed about being neighbors . . .
- Voice 2: Presbyterians, while traveling, came near those who had been wounded . . .
- PAUSE
- Voices 1, 2, 3: And our story begins.