Prayer for World Food Day 2012

Good and gracious God,

You are gathering this community from across the earth,
asking us to pour out our lives on behalf of those who hunger.
For hope. For justice. For daily bread.

You are asking us to see the earth as you do,
So very, very good.
Trees with fruit, bursting with seed.
Green plants for food, for humans and for every living creature.
As a holy place for everything that breathes and to whom you have given life.

Yet we see the realities before us and it takes our breath away:
Those whose bellies growl every day.
Those who consume more than their fair share.
Those who walk miles for clean water to drink.
Those whose gardens are demolished by corporations
who lease land quietly and displace lives to make a profit.
Those whose farms have crashed under the weight of cheaper foods
that undercut local prices by decisions made far away in trade agreements.
Those whose very lives are impoverished more by our globalizing economies.

Breathe new life into us ...
As a global community.
As local congregations.
As networks of committed people.
As individual souls, all unafraid.
For we see anew our depth, breadth and life.

Gather us together so that we may remind each other of your intent for this earth.
Gather us so that we may pour out our lives in Christ’s name, as Christ does
on behalf of those who hunger.
For hope. For justice. For daily bread.
So that it will be on earth as it is in heaven.
For now and for always.