

LAMENT FOR AMERICA



SONG

God Is

LAMENT FOR AMERICA (INTRODUCTION)

FIRST PRAYER

ALMIGHTY GOD, WHO KNOWS DEATH, VIOLENCE, AND LOSS SO INTIMATELY, BLESS ALL WHO WEEP AND MOURN THE GUN VIOLENCE IN AMERICA, SEND YOUR PEOPLE TO HEAL, ENCOURAGE, AND UPLIFT; AND STIR IN OUR HEARTS THE WILL AND RESOLVE TO SAY ENOUGH IS ENOUGH, TO WORK FOR THE THINGS THAT MAKE FOR PEACE, DISCOVERING NEW WAYS TO WORK TOGETHER FOR THE PEACEFUL NATION WE ALL DESIRE;

WE ASK THIS IN THE NAME OF THE PRINCE OF PEACE, JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD, AMEN.

SECOND PRAYER

ALMIGHTY GOD, WHO HAS TOLD US "VENGEANCE IS MINE," SAVE US FROM OURSELVES, SAVE US FROM THE VENGEANCE IN OUR HEARTS.

O GOD MAKE SPEED TO SAVE US.

SAVE US FROM OUR DESIRE TO HURT AS WE HAVE BEEN HURT, TO PUNISH AS WE HAVE BEEN PUNISHED, TO TERRORIZE AS WE HAVE BEEN TERRORIZED.

GIVE US THE STRENGTH IT TAKES TO LISTEN RATHER THAN TO JUDGE, TO TRUST RATHER THAN TO FEAR, TO TRY AGAIN AND AGAIN TO MAKE PEACE EVEN WHEN PEACE ELUDES US.

O GOD MAKE SPEED TO SAVE US.

WE ASK, O GOD, FOR THE GRACE TO BE OUR BEST SELVES.

WE ASK FOR THE VISION TO BE BUILDERS OF THE HUMAN COMMUNITY RATHER THAN ITS DESTROYERS.

WE ASK FOR THE HUMILITY AS A PEOPLE TO UNDERSTAND THE FEARS AND HOPES OF OTHER PEOPLES.

O GOD MAKE SPEED TO SAVE US.

WE ASK FOR THE LOVE IT TAKES TO RAISE CHILDREN TO LOVE AND NOT TO HATE.

WE ASK FOR THE HEART IT TAKES TO CARE FOR ALL PEOPLE REGARDLESS OF RACE, CLASS, OR RELIGION.

WE ASK FOR THE COURAGE TO LOVE THOSE WHO ARE DIFFERENT THAN US.

O GOD MAKE SPEED TO SAVE US.

GIVE US THE DEPTH OF SOUL, O GOD, TO RESIST THE TEMPTATIONS OF POWER, TO UNDERSTAND THAT VENGEANCE BEGETS VIOLENCE, AND TO BRING PEACE—NOT WAR—WHEREVER WE GO.

O GOD MAKE SPEED TO SAVE US.

FOR YOU, O GOD, HAVE BEEN MERCIFUL TO US.

FOR YOU, O GOD, HAVE BEEN PATIENT WITH US.

FOR YOU, O GOD, HAVE BEEN GRACIOUS TO US.

AND SO MAY WE BE MERCIFUL AND PATIENT AND GRACIOUS WITH THE OTHERS WHOM YOU ALSO LOVE.

O GOD MAKE SPEED TO SAVE US.

THIS WE ASK THROUGH JESUS, THE ONE WITHOUT VENGEANCE IN HIS HEART. THIS WE ASK FOREVER AND EVER. **AMEN.**

PSALM 13

SONG

WASH ME

THIRD PRAYER

LORD, HAVE MERCY.

CHRIST, HAVE MERCY.

LORD, HAVE MERCY.

O CHRIST, HEAR US; O CHRIST, GRACIOUSLY HEAR US.

GOD THE FATHER OF HEAVEN, HAVE MERCY UPON US.

GOD THE SON, REDEEMER OF THE WORLD, HAVE MERCY UPON US.

GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT, HELP TO THE FAITHFUL, HAVE MERCY UPON US.

JESUS, SON OF THE LIVING GOD, HAVE MERCY UPON US.

JESUS, WORD OF THE FATHER, HAVE MERCY UPON US.

JESUS, BY WHOM ALL THINGS WERE MADE, HAVE MERCY UPON US.

JESUS, BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY, HAVE MERCY UPON US.

JESUS, CRUCIFIED, RISEN, AND ASCENDED KING, HAVE MERCY UPON US.

JESUS, WHOM THE WHOLE HEAVENS ADORE, HAVE MERCY UPON US.

JESUS, ALPHA AND OMEGA, THE FIRST AND LAST, HAVE MERCY UPON US.

JESUS, WHO WILL JUDGE THE LIVING AND THE DEAD, HAVE MERCY UPON US.

JESUS, MIGHTY TO SAVE, WE WORSHIP YOU.

JESUS, POWERFUL TO HEAL, WE WORSHIP YOU.

JESUS, PERFECT IN EVERY GOOD WORK, WE WORSHIP YOU.

JESUS, PATIENT WITH OUR WEAKNESS, WE WORSHIP YOU.

JESUS, GENTLE WITH THE FEARFUL, WE WORSHIP YOU.

JESUS, COURAGEOUS TO SPEAK THE TRUTH, WE WORSHIP YOU.

JESUS, STRONG TO CARRY THE CROSS, WE WORSHIP YOU.

JESUS, LOVER OF PEACE, WE WORSHIP YOU.

JESUS, MIRROR OF HOLINESS, WE WORSHIP YOU.

JESUS, PATTERN OF LOVE, WE WORSHIP YOU.

JESUS, LOVER OF SOULS, WE WORSHIP YOU.

JESUS, FATHER OF THE POOR, WE WORSHIP YOU.

JESUS, COMFORTER TO THE AFFLICTED, WE WORSHIP YOU.

JESUS, BREAD GIVEN FOR THE LIFE OF THE WORLD, WE WORSHIP YOU.

JESUS, LIGHT OF THE WORLD, WE WORSHIP YOU.

JESUS, GOOD SHEPHERD OF THE FLOCK, WE WORSHIP YOU.

JESUS, THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE, WE WORSHIP YOU.

JESUS, ETERNAL WISDOM, WE WORSHIP YOU.

JESUS, INFINITE GOODNESS, WE WORSHIP YOU.

BE MERCIFUL, *SPARE US, JESUS.*

BE MERCIFUL, *HEAR US, JESUS.*

FROM EVIL, *DELIVER US, JESUS.*

FROM ALL PERIL, *DELIVER US, JESUS.*

FROM ALL VIOLENCE, *DELIVER US, JESUS.*

FROM THE SNARES OF THE DEVIL, *DELIVER US, JESUS.*

FROM TEMPTATION, PRESUMPTION, AND COLDNESS OF HEART, *DELIVER US, JESUS.*

FROM DISASTER AND DANGER, *DELIVER US, JESUS.*

FROM THE LOVE OF WORLDLY GOODS AND COMFORTS, *DELIVER US, JESUS.*

FROM ALL DISDAIN AND WASTE OF YOUR GOOD CREATION, *DELIVER US, JESUS.*

BY YOUR BIRTH IN BETHLEHEM, *DELIVER US, JESUS.*

BY YOUR TEACHING AND MIGHTY WORKS, *DELIVER US, JESUS.*

BY YOUR PASSION AND DEATH ON THE CROSS, *DELIVER US, JESUS.*

BY YOUR GLORIOUS RESURRECTION, *DELIVER US, JESUS.*

BY YOUR WORD OF PEACE, *DELIVER US, JESUS.*

BY YOUR WONDROUS ASCENSION AND PRAYER ON OUR BEHALF, *DELIVER US, JESUS.*

LAMB OF GOD, THAT TAKES AWAY THE SINS OF THE WORLD, *SPARE US, JESUS.*

LAMB OF GOD, THAT TAKES AWAY THE SINS OF THE WORLD, *HEAR US, JESUS.*

LAMB OF GOD, THAT TAKES AWAY THE SINS OF THE WORLD, *GRANT US YOUR PEACE.*

BLESSED BE THE NAME OF THE LORD, *FROM THIS TIME FORTH AND FOR EVERMORE.*

THE LORD GIVES US HIS PEACE AND EVERLASTING LIFE. *AMEN.*

A TIME OF SILENCE

A PRAYER FOR PEOPLE LIVING IN A VIOLENT LAND

MOST MERCIFUL GOD WE CONFESS WE ARE A NATION ADDICTED TO VIOLENCE.
WE HAVE CELEBRATED AND MYTHOLOGIZED THE VIOLENCE WE CALL GOOD,
ONLY TO BE SHOCKED BY VIOLENCE WE KNOW IS EVIL.
WE HAVE SOWN THE WIND AND REAPED THE WHIRLWIND.

FORGIVE US FOR DISSEMINATING THE DECEIT OF REDEMPTIVE VIOLENCE;
FOR EMBRACING THE SATANIC LIE THAT WE CAN DO GOOD BY KILLING.
MAY WE WHO CONFESS THAT JESUS CHRIST IS THE PRINCE OF PEACE,
HAVE THE COURAGE TO TURN SWORDS INTO PLOWSHARES,
AND SPEARS INTO PRUNING HOOKS.
MAY WE EMBODY THE WAY OF PEACE.

WE LAMENT THE FIFTY-NINE DEAD IN LAS VEGAS,
AND PRAY FOR THEIR SOULS.
LORD, HAVE MERCY.

WE LAMENT THE HUNDREDS WOUNDED,
AND PRAY FOR THEIR HEALING.
LORD, HAVE MERCY.

WE LAMENT OUR ADDICTION TO VIOLENCE,
AND PRAY FOR OUR DELIVERANCE.
LORD, HAVE MERCY.

WE LAMENT THAT OUR CULTURE SACRALIZES WEAPONS,
AND PRAY TO LEARN THE BETTER WAY OF PEACE.
LORD, HAVE MERCY.

WE LAMENT THAT WE HAVE IDOLIZED VIOLENT MEN,
INSTEAD OF LEARNING FROM YOUR SERVANTS OF PEACE.
SO WE PRAY AS WE LEARNED FROM YOUR SERVANT SAINT FRANCIS...

LORD, MAKE US INSTRUMENTS OF YOUR PEACE.
WHERE THERE IS HATRED, LET US SOW LOVE;
WHERE THERE IS INJURY, PARDON;
WHERE THERE IS DOUBT, FAITH;
WHERE THERE IS DESPAIR, HOPE;
WHERE THERE IS DARKNESS, LIGHT;
WHERE THERE IS SADNESS, JOY.

O, DIVINE MASTER,
GRANT THAT WE MAY NOT SO MUCH SEEK TO BE CONSOLED AS TO CONSOLE;
TO BE UNDERSTOOD AS TO UNDERSTAND;
TO BE LOVED AS TO LOVE;
FOR IT IS IN GIVING THAT WE RECEIVE;
IT IS IN PARDONING THAT WE ARE PARDONED;
IT IS IN DYING THAT WE ARE BORN TO ETERNAL LIFE.
AMEN.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

MOST MERCIFUL GOD,
WE CONFESS THE WE HAVE SINNED AGAINST YOU
IN THOUGHT, WORD, AND DEED,
BY WHAT WE HAVE DONE,
AND BY WHAT WE HAVE LEFT UNDONE.
WE HAVE NOT LOVED YOU WITH OUR WHOLE HEART;
WE HAVE NOT LOVED OUR NEIGHBORS AS OURSELVES.
WE ARE TRULY SORRY AND WE HUMBLY REPENT.
FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR SON JESUS CHRIST,
HAVE MERCY ON US AND FORGIVE US;
THAT WE MAY DELIGHT IN YOUR WILL,
AND WALK IN YOUR WAYS,
TO THE GLORY OF YOUR NAME.
AMEN.

COMMUNION

SONG

WE WILL TRUST IN YOU

BLESSING

