

## LENTEN WITNESS - LITURGY OF REPENTANCE

*From Pax Christi USA*

### **Opening Song:**

(to be repeated for several minutes in Taize fashion)

SONG

## Ubi caritas

Ubi caritas

The musical notation is for the song 'Ubi caritas'. It is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 72. The piece begins with a piano (p) dynamic. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with some triplets. The lyrics are: 'U-bi ca-ri-tas et a - mor, u-bi ca-ri-tas De-us i - bi est.'

(Translation: Where charity and love are, there God is.)

### **Opening Prayer:**

Where charity and love are, there God is.  
The love of Christ has gathered us into one flock.  
Let us exult, and in Him be joyful.  
Let us fear and let us love the living God.  
And from a sincere heart let us love each other.

Where charity and love are, there God is.  
Therefore, whensoever we are gathered as one:  
Lest we in mind be divided, let us beware.  
Let cease malicious quarrels, let strife give way.  
And in the midst of us be Christ our God.

Where charity and love are, there God is.  
Together also with the blessed may we see,  
Gloriously, Thy countenance, O Christ our God:  
A joy which is immense, and also approved:  
Through infinite ages of ages.  
Amen.

### **Welcome to those passing by:**

We invite you to participate in this Lenten Witness for Peace and Justice. The purpose of this witness is to call for repentance and conversion of ourselves, our society and our churches to the Gospel way of justice, nonviolence and a reverence for all life and creation. We call for an immediate end to the sinful wars being carried out in our name. We call for reparations for Iraq and Afghanistan; for total disarmament; the abolition of all nuclear and conventional weapons; an end to the Israeli occupation of the West Bank; an end to torture and the closing of Guantanamo and Bagram U.S. military prisons and other military torture training centers like the SOA/WHINSEC; and an end to AFRICOM and the militarization of Africa. We call, too, for the eradication of poverty; universal health care; unlimited aid and assistance to help rebuild Haiti; a just economic order; climate justice, and justice for immigrants. And we call for the proposed FY 2011 \$708 billion military budget, which includes \$7 billion to upgrade the U.S. nuclear arsenal, to be converted to meet urgent human needs.

## A Litany for Peace

Reader One: This is a day of peace, they say.

Reader Two: But all around us are wars and rumors of wars.

One: We wish for the nations to join hands in peace.

Two: But instead we see the countries of the world ravaged by bombs and paralyzed by terrorists; we watch in shock as ethnic purging re-emerges into the international scene; we watch in dismay as whole nations fall before the violence of hunger.

One: We long for peace in the land where we live.

Two: But we see fear throughout our cities, dogging our steps through the streets; we see unchecked greed in the marketplaces; we watch ethnic groups, political parties, and religious communities fling poisoned barbs of prejudice toward one another; we see the slow slaughter of the poor through the violence of greed and denial.

One: We ache for peace among friends.

Two: But something within us builds walls to keep the love out; something within us holds us back from the embrace that might heal our brokenness.

One: Most of all, we want peace within our hearts.

Two: But we rush about in our busyness and never give the peace a chance to plant itself and grow; or we have our hearts so heavily guarded that peace cannot penetrate the fortress.

One: We are told that the child whose coming was foretold was described as the Prince of Peace.

Two: But we are not sure what that means, and we are confused by the lack of peace around us.

All: O Prince of Peace, still our minds and hearts and plant hope where we feel despair. Show us what you meant when you spoke of peace. Show us how to have peace in ourselves, and how to make peace in the world around us. Amen.

*~Katie Cook is the editor for Seeds of Hope Publishers. Used with permission.*

### **Reading: Matthew 5:20-26** (English Standard Version)

<sup>20</sup>For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds<sup>(A)</sup> that of the scribes and Pharisees, you<sup>(B)</sup> will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>21</sup> "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable<sup>(E)</sup> to judgment.' <sup>22</sup>But I say to you that<sup>(F)</sup> everyone who is angry with his brother<sup>(A)</sup> will be liable<sup>(G)</sup> to judgment; whoever insults<sup>(B)</sup> his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to<sup>(H)</sup> the hell<sup>(C)</sup> of fire. <sup>23</sup>(I) So if<sup>(J)</sup> you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, <sup>24</sup>leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. <sup>25</sup>(K) Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the

judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. <sup>26</sup>Truly, I say to you, <sup>(L)</sup> you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

**Daily Reading Reflections (from PCUSA Lenten Reflections, available at [www.paxchristiusa.org](http://www.paxchristiusa.org))**

*See Reflection Booklet/Print from website*

**Litany of the Cloud of Witnesses**

**(All Respond with "Presente!" after each line)**

Moses and Miriam, nonviolent liberators, architects and singers of the covenant of justice  
Isaiah, critic of militarism, prophet of peace  
Mary Magdalene, faithful witness of Christ's execution and first witness of his resurrection  
Felicity and Perpetua, midwives and mothers, sacrificed in the sport of a military empire  
Leonard Peltier, Native American political prisoner  
Victor Jara, martyred musician  
Gandhi, the Mahatma, nonviolent warrior  
Ben Salmon, W.W.I CO  
Rosa Parks, mother of the civil rights struggle  
Thomas Merton, contemplative critic, mentor of peacemakers  
Mary Jane Helrich, poet and peacemaker  
Martin Luther King, Jr., prophet and maker of the Beloved Community  
Clare of Assisi, steadfast follower of Jesus  
Catherine of Siena, mystic diplomat, skilled negotiator  
Phil Berigan, plowshares peacemaker  
Five prisoners who died in Guantanamo  
Francis of Assisi, lover of creation, poor man with nothing to fight for  
Rachel Corrie, martyred human rights activist in West Bank  
Franz Jagerstatter, resister for Christ  
All imprisoned conscientious objectors and military refusers  
Dorothy Stang, Brazilian rain forest martyr  
Fr. Dick McSorley, Jesuit pacifist  
Martin of Tours, conscientious objector  
Elmer Maas, teacher, musician and peacemaker  
Penny Lernoux, writer for justice  
Pope John XXIII, herald of peace,  
Dorothy Day, lady poverty, witness to the radical gospel of peace  
Maura Clarke, Ita Ford, Dorothy Kazel and Jean Donovan, martyrs for the poor, handmaids of justice  
Tom Lewis, artist and peace prisoner  
William Thomas, persistent peace vigilier  
Jean Juste, prophet priest of Haiti  
Peter DeMott, father and nonviolent resister  
Howard Zinn, truth-telling historian  
All the holy peacemakers, martyrs and saints, past ad present  
Jesus, Prince of Peace, we pray to you, empower us.

**Responsorial: From the Words of Martin Luther King, Jr.**

ONE: These are revolutionary times. All over the globe people are revolting against old systems of exploitation and oppression, and out of the wombs of a frail world, new systems of justice and equality are being born... Our only hope today lies in our ability to recapture the revolutionary spirit and go out into a sometimes hostile world declaring eternal hostility to poverty, racism, and militarism.

ALL: Make us a light to the world.

TWO: I refuse to accept the view that humankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and that the bright daybreak of peace and kinship can never become a reality...I believe that even amid today's mortar bursts and whining bullets, there is still hope for a brighter tomorrow, I believe that wounded justice lying prostrate on the blood-flowing streets of our nations, can be lifted from the dust of shame to reign supreme among the children of humankind.

ALL: Make us a light to the world.

ONE: Christians of the United States, I must say to you what was written to the Roman Christians years ago, "Be not conformed to this world: but be transformed by the renewing of your mind." You have a dual citizenry. Your highest loyalty is to God, and not to the mores or the folkways, the state or the nation or any human-made institution. If an earthly injustice or custom conflicts with God's will it is your Christian duty to oppose it.

ALL: Make us a light to the world.

TWO: Expediency asks the question, "Is it politic?" and vanity comes along and asks the question, "Is it popular?" And there comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe nor politic nor popular, but one must do it because conscience tells them it is right. And this is where I believe we must go, as ministers of the Gospel.

ALL: Make us a light to the world.

ONE: So often the contemporary church is ineffectual and weak, with an uncertain voice. So often it is an arch defender of the status quo...If today's church does not recapture the sacrificial spirit of the early church it will lose its authenticity, forfeit the loyalty of millions and be dismissed as an irrelevant social club with no meaning for the twentieth century.

ALL: Make us a light to the world.

TWO: The churches must take a more prophetic stand, using every creative method possible to protest, but we must protest... We must encourage conscientious objection, and continue to call for an end to the U.S. war in Iraq and Afghanistan.

ALL: Make us a light to the world.

ONE: The Iraq war speaks to a deeper need for a true revolution of values... We must challenge the giant triplets of poverty, racism and militarism... We must address the roots of the conflict, the disparity between poverty and wealth, both domestically and internationally... We must challenge war as a means to achieve justice, and end the insanity of spending a trillion dollars on war, little on social welfare and the common good.

ALL: Make us a light to the world.

TWO: A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death...Our scientific power has outrun our spiritual power. We have guided missiles and misguided men.

ALL: Make us a light to the world.

ONE: America is rapidly approaching spiritual death... Our choice is either nonviolent coexistence or violent co-annihilation... Our loyalties must go beyond national interests and embrace the global common good... We can no longer afford to worship a God of hate, but rather a God of love who does justice... We must find new ways of acting with justice and compassion, but we must act... The time is urgent, tomorrow is today. The world awaits our response.... We must choose to end the violence and work for a just peace at this crucial moment in history.

ALL: Make us a light to the world.

ALL: Dear God, we thank you for the gift of Martin Luther King, Jr. His public witness to peace with justice is an example of what it means to be Christian disciples. Grant us the same light that led Martin to the mountain top to see the Promised Land. Amen

**Let us now enter a time of hearing the signs of our times and be called to RESPOND for Guantanamo, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq.**

**Guantanamo Section:**

*EXCERPTS FROM "[No Justice Forever - America's New Foreign Policy of Indefinite Detention](#)" by Lt. Col Barry Wingard, OpEd on Tuesday Feb 23, 2010*

As evidenced by the recent outpouring of generous support for the people of Haiti, America remains a caring and compassionate nation. But when it comes to human rights and the rule of law, the United States falls woefully short, trailing behind the rest of the civilized world. Case in point, the US government is seriously considering indefinite detentions for some Guantanamo detainees.

Sen. Lindsey Graham said last weekend that the White House may support a new law that would allow the indefinite detention of some terrorism suspects. Meanwhile, last month the Guantanamo Detainee Review Panel finally recommended which detainees should be released and which ones should face trials. It came as little surprise that more than 100 detainees were cleared for release while about 35 will be tried either by federal court or military commission. Yet surprisingly, approximately 50 detainees have been recommended for indefinite detention without trial. The administration claims they are considered too dangerous to be released, but too difficult to prosecute even in the conviction-friendly commission system.

These 50 detainees present a perplexing situation for the United States. The United States prides itself on being a world leader on human rights and the rule of law, and has been consistently outspoken in its criticism of human rights abuses by other nations. But in its zeal to demonstrate a "tough on terrorism" stance, the United States has failed to live up to these values.

I represent Fayiz al-Kandari, a Kuwaiti citizen who has been imprisoned at Guantanamo Bay for more than eight years without a trial. In my July 2009 letter to [The Washington Post](#), I explained how every time I visit my client he asks whether I have news of justice for him. Each time, I am forced to answer, "I have no justice today." Assuming Fayiz would someday have his "day in court," I prepared him for the probability that "justice" would come in the form of a military commission - a second-rate judicial system

largely designed to permit rumor as evidence. Unfortunately, I am now left to wonder whether Fayiz will ever be afforded any semblance of justice.

We are at a key juncture in our nation's history. We can give in to political expediency and fear or we can restore the rule of law and uphold our country's founding principles. Let's not go down the slippery slope of indefinite detentions.

### **Guantanamo RESPONSE:**

#### **Prayer for the Tortured**

Leader: Jesus, our Tortured Brother, In this world, so many are forced to walk your path today – the suffering and pain, the humiliation, sense of betrayal and abandonment; for those with power, the Romans of today, continue to condemn others to modern crosses.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Leader: You said that what was done to the least of these was done to you, and so each day, You are tortured anew.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Leader: Jesus, our Guardian of the Wounded and Tortured, Bid us to look into the secret prisons – the unmarked graves – the hearts and minds of torture survivors. Bid us to wipe the tears of the families of those whose decapitated bodies were cast into the open sea. Bid us to embrace the open wounds of the tortured.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Leader: Jesus, Guiding Spirit, Teach us to be in solidarity with those who hang from these crosses. Call out to those who torture, "Know the evil you have done and repent." Call out to the rest of us, "What meaning does love have if you allow torture to continue unopposed?"

People: Lord, grant us courage; Lord, grant us love.

Leader: In the name of all the tortured of the world, give us the strength, give us the courage, give us the will to bring this horror to an end, in the name of love, justice and the God of us all.

Amen.

*(source: adapted from a prayer by Sr. Dianna Ortiz, OSU, Torture Abolition and Survivors Support Coalition, [www.paxchristiusa.org](http://www.paxchristiusa.org))*

### **Afghanistan Section:**

*Excerpts from "[Air Strike on Civilians Reverberates Beyond Afghanistan](#)," Monday 22 February 2010, by [Charles Fromm](#), [Inter Press Service](#)*

READER 1: LET US HEAR EXCERPTS FROM THE NEWS AND RESPOND

Amid growing European discontent over the war in Afghanistan, the head of U.S. and NATO forces apologised Monday for an air strike that killed at least 27 civilians in the central part of the country Sunday.

"We are extremely saddened by the tragic loss of innocent lives. I have made it clear to our forces that we are here to protect the Afghan people, and inadvertently killing or injuring civilians undermines their trust and confidence in our mission," Gen. Stanley McChrystal, commander of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), said in a statement.

"We will re-double our efforts to regain that trust," McChrystal continued.

Sunday's attack consisted of a U.S. helicopter firing on several vehicles as they traveled towards Kandahar, the largest city in southern Afghanistan.

But the political implications of the attack, which, according to the Wall Street Journal, was carried out by helicopter-borne U.S. Special Operations Forces (SOF), could be serious, not just in Afghanistan itself, but also among electorates in Europe and Canada that have become increasingly opposed to their militaries' involvement in the war.

This is likely to be especially true in the Netherlands, whose government collapsed Saturday amid negotiations on whether or not to keep troops in Afghanistan.

The air strike took place in a district controlled by the Dutch army, and if Dutch forces assisted in the attack it could have serious political consequences in the Netherlands.

READER 2: THE COSTS OF WAR, THE COST OF LIVES. HELP THE DUTCH PEOPLE TO SAY NO TO WAR, HELP US TO SAY NO TO MORE WAR. SUSTAIN US TO BE THE VOICE OF PEACE.

ALL: GOD, SUSTAIN US TO BE THE VOICE OF PEACE.

READER 1: The lethal strike came despite the implementation of stricter rules of engagement regarding strikes ordered by Gen. McChrystal last summer when he took command of NATO/ISAF.

This is the most lethal incident in which civilians were killed by U.S.-led forces since last September when a German-ordered air strike on fuel tankers hijacked by the Taliban killed 140 people, the majority of whom were civilians.

READER 2: THE COSTS OF WAR, THE COST OF LIVES. HELP US TO SAY NO TO MORE WAR. SUSTAIN US TO BE THE VOICE OF PEACE.

ALL: GOD, SUSTAIN US TO BE THE VOICE OF PEACE.

READER 1: ISAF officials insisted Monday that the attack is being investigated to determine whether it violated those rules of engagement.

In a statement released Monday, ISAF officials said "Yesterday, a group of suspected insurgents, believed to be en route to attack a joint Afghan-ISAF unit, was engaged by an airborne weapons team resulting in a number of individuals killed and wounded... After the joint ground force arrived at the scene and found women and children, they transported the wounded to medical treatment facilities."

Afghan President Hamid Karzai has frequently condemned the killings of civilians by U.S. and NATO forces but has found himself largely powerless in terms of effecting change.

"The repeated killing of civilians by NATO forces is unjustifiable, we strongly condemn it," Karzai's cabinet said in a statement issued in Kabul. It said 27 civilians, "including four women and one child," were killed in the attack.

READER 2: THE COSTS OF WAR, THE COST OF LIVES. HELP US TO SAY NO TO MORE WAR. SUSTAIN US TO BE THE VOICE OF PEACE.

ALL: GOD, SUSTAIN US TO BE THE VOICE OF PEACE.

READER 1: In another effort to improve the perception of ISAF forces, McChrystal revised the rules of engagement last summer to counter the rising numbers of civilian deaths attributed to coalition troops, and the increasing resentment toward his occupying army and the corrupt Afghan government that accompanies it.

The shift in policy restricted the use of air strikes to situations where coalition forces were in imminent danger.

Though McChrystal's policy is thought to be responsible for a downturn in the number of civilian casualties, it is not clear that this has translated into meaningful improvements for everyday Afghans.

According to the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), the number of civilian casualties caused by coalition forces dropped by a third last year. However, the number of people killed by the Taliban and other militants rose by about 40 percent.

Although U.S./NATO forces have killed fewer civilians, the Taliban has killed more, bringing the number of civilian deaths to a 15 percent increase since last year, according to UNAMA.

READER 2: THE COSTS OF WAR, THE COST OF LIVES. HELP US TO SAY NO TO MORE WAR. SUSTAIN US TO BE THE VOICE OF PEACE.

ALL: GOD, SUSTAIN US TO BE THE VOICE OF PEACE.

READER 1: In another effort to mitigate popular backlash surrounding these deadly attacks, a compensation system for death, injury or damage resulting from coalition operations was devised.

According to the Associated Press, the death of a child or adult is worth 1,500 to 2,500 dollars, loss of limb and other injuries 600 to 1,500 dollars, a damaged or destroyed vehicle 500 to 2,500 dollars, and damage to a farmer's fields 50 to 250 dollars.

UNAMA reported that 2009 was the deadliest year for civilians in Afghanistan since the toppling of the Taliban regime by U.S. forces in 2001.

This latest incident comes during the largest yet offensive for U.S.-led coalition and Afghan forces, which have been fighting to secure the former Taliban stronghold of Marja in southern Helmand Province.

READER 2: THE COSTS OF WAR, THE COST OF LIVES. HELP US TO SAY NO TO MORE WAR IN AFGHANISTAN, IRAQ, AND PAKISTAN. SUSTAIN US TO BE THE VOICE OF PEACE.

ALL: GOD, SUSTAIN US TO BE THE VOICE OF PEACE.

## **Pakistan Section: Litany of US Drone Attacks on Pakistan**

U.S. Drone Attacks in 2009 in Pakistan; Response After Each Attack: "God Forgive Us"

- **February 14, 2009:** more than 30 killed when two missiles are launched by drones near town of Makeen in South Waziristan. <sup>[31]</sup>
- **March 1, 2009:** Strike in Sararogha village in South Waziristan kills 7 people. <sup>[33]</sup>
- **March 12, 2009:** 24 killed in attack in [Berju](#) in [Kurram Agency](#). <sup>[34]</sup>
- **March 25, 2009:** 7 killed in attacks on 2 vehicles by two missiles in [Makin](#) area of South Waziristan at 6:30pm. <sup>[36]</sup>
- **April 1, 2009:** 14 killed in [Orakzai Agency](#) tribal area. <sup>[38]</sup>
- **April 4, 2009:** 13 killed in North Waziristan. <sup>[39]</sup>
- **April 19, 2009:** at least 3 killed and 5 injured in an attack in South Waziristan <sup>[41]</sup>
- **May 16, 2009:** strike in village of [Sarkai Naki](#) in North Waziristan kills 25 people. <sup>[45]</sup>
- **June 14, 2009:** strike on a vehicle in South Waziristan kills 5 people. <sup>[46]</sup>
- **June 23, 2009:** [Makeen airstrike](#) kills at least 80 but misses [Baitullah Mehsud](#) in the town of [Makeen](#), many of which were attending the funerals of people killed in the air strikes earlier in the day. <sup>[50][51][52]</sup>
- **July 3, 2009:** US Drone kills 17 people and injures a further 27. <sup>[53]</sup>
- **July 7, 2009:** strike in [Zangarha](#) in South Waziristan kills at least 12 people. <sup>[54]</sup>
- **July 8, 2009:** strike on a hideout in [Karwan Manza](#) area and on a vehicle convoy in South Waziristan kills at least 50 people. <sup>[55]</sup>
- **August 11, 2009:** strike in [Ladda](#) village, South Waziristan, kills 10. <sup>[64]</sup>
- **August 21, 2009:** missile strike on the village of Darpa Kheil, North Waziristan, reportedly targeting [Sirajuddin Haqqani](#) kills at least 21 people. <sup>[65][66][67]</sup>
- **September 14, 2009:** drone fired missile kills four people in a car 1.5 miles from Mir Ali in North Waziristan. <sup>[74]</sup>
- **September 24, 2009:** drone fired missile kills up to 12 people in the village of Dande Darpa Khel near Mir Ali. <sup>[75]</sup>
- **October 24, 2009:** Alleged US drone strike killed 27, in Damadolla, inside Bajaur tribal agency. <sup>[82][83]</sup> The 27 victims were reportedly a mix of Taliban and Al Qaeda operatives engaged in a planning and strategy meeting. The dead apparently included 11 "foreigners". One of those reported killed was [Faqir Mohammed](#)'s nephew, Zahid and another was Mohammed's unnamed son-in-law. The meeting was apparently being held to decide on whether to reinforce South Waziristan against Pakistani forces, which Mohammed advocates, or exploit recent successes in the Nuristan and Kunar provinces of Afghanistan, which Al Qaeda wishes to do. <sup>[84]</sup>
- **December 17, 2009:** 17 killed in 2 separate attacks in [North Waziristan](#) in an area controlled by Hafiz Gul Bahadur. In the first attack, two missiles hit a car near Dosali, killing two. In the second attack, 10 missiles fired by five drones hit two compounds in Ambarshaga, killing 15 people. Unnamed sources stated that seven of the dead were "foreigners." <sup>[93][94]</sup>

## **Iraq Section:**

As the 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start to the Iraq war approaches, let us dwell on these statistics and pray for a speedy end to the war.

- Troops in Iraq - Total 115,000 U.S. troops as of November 30, 2009. All other nations have withdrawn their troops.
- U.S. Troop Casualties - 4,377 US troops; US casualties were under 25 years old
- Non-U.S. Troop Casualties - Total 316, with 179 from the UK

- US Troops Wounded - 31,639 through September 30, 2009, 20% of which are serious brain or spinal injuries. (Total excludes psychological injuries.)
- US Troops with Serious Mental Health Problems - 30% of US troops develop serious mental health problems within 3 to 4 months of returning home
- Private Contractors in Iraq, Working in Support of US Army Troops - More than 180,000 in August 2007, [per The Nation/LA Times](#).
- Journalists killed - 140, 93 by murder and 47 by acts of war
- Journalists killed by US Forces - 14
- Iraqi Police and Soldiers Killed - 9,368
- Iraqi Civilians Killed, Estimated - A UN issued report dated Sept 20, 2006 stating that Iraqi civilian casualties have been significantly under-reported. Casualties are reported at 50,000 to over 100,000, but may be much higher. Some informed estimates place Iraqi civilian casualties at over 600,000.
- Iraqi Insurgents Killed, Roughly Estimated - 55,000
- Non-Iraqi Contractors and Civilian Workers Killed - 569
- Non-Iraqi Kidnapped - 306, including 57 killed, 147 released, 4 escaped, 6 rescued and 89 status unknown.
- Iraqis Displaced Inside Iraq, by Iraq War, as of May 2007 - 2,255,000
- Iraqi Refugees in Syria & Jordan - 2.1 million to 2.25 million
- Iraqi Unemployment Rate - 27 to 60%, where curfew not in effect
- Consumer Price Inflation in 2006 - 50%
- Iraqi Children Suffering from Chronic Malnutrition - 28% in June 2007 (Per [CNN.com, July 30, 2007](#))
- Percent of professionals who have left Iraq since 2003 - 40%
- Iraqi Physicians Before 2003 Invasion - 34,000
- Iraqi Physicians Who Have Left Iraq Since 2005 Invasion - 12,000
- Iraqi Physicians Murdered Since 2003 Invasion - 2,000

### **Litany of Repentance and Conversion**

During this Lenten Season we ask God's forgiveness for our complicity in the violence now unleashed in our world and we repent of the violence in our own hearts.

From the arrogance of power...[Deliver us](#)  
 From the tyranny of greed...[Deliver us](#)  
 From the politics of hypocrisy...[Deliver us](#)  
 From the addiction of control...[Deliver us](#)  
 from the idolatry of national security...[Deliver us](#)  
 From the cancer of hatred...[Deliver us](#)  
 From the hystreia of nationalism...[Deliver us](#)  
 From the sin of racism...[Deliver us](#)  
 From the sin of sexism...[Deliver us](#)  
 From the sin of war...[Deliver us](#)  
 From the sin of torture...[Deliver us](#)  
 From the waste and preparation of war...[Deliver us](#)  
 From the madness of war...[Deliver us](#)  
 In humility we ask o God, hear our prayer

*(From CPT Litany of Resistance, by Jim Looney)*

For our hardness of the heart...[forgive us, we pray O God](#)  
 For wasting our gifts...[forgive us, we pray O God](#)

For wanting too much forgive us, we pray O God.  
For wounding the earth... forgive us, we pray O God  
For ignoring the poor... forgive us, we pray O God  
For trusting in weapons... forgive us, we pray O God.  
For refusing to listen forgive us, we pray O God  
For exporting arms forgive us, we pray O God  
For desiring dominance forgive us, we pray O God  
For lacking humility forgive us, we pray O God

For failing to risk forgive us, we pray O God  
For failing to trust forgive us, we pray O God  
For failing to act forgive us, we pray O God  
For failing to hope forgive us, we pray O God  
For failing to love forgive us, we pray O God  
For failing to negotiate forgive us, we pray O God  
For our arrogance forgive us, we pray O God  
For our impatience forgive us, we pray O God  
For our pride forgive us, we pray O God  
For our silence forgive us, we pray O God

That we learn compassion...change our hearts, we pray O God  
That we embrace nonviolence...change our hearts, we pray O God  
That we act in justice ...change our hearts, we pray O God  
That we live in hope ...change our hearts, we pray O God  
That we do your will ...change our hearts, we pray O God  
That we love our enemies ...change our hearts, we pray O God  
That we strive to be peacemakers ...change our hearts, we pray O God  
That we live simply ...change our hearts, we pray O God  
That we practice sharing ...change our hearts, we pray O God  
That we protect the earth ...change our hearts, we pray O God  
That we cherish all life ...change our hearts, we pray O God

*(Adapted from Pax Christi USA)*

### **Closing song: Da pacem cordium**

(To be repeated in Taize style, [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q\\_IZS5OsRtc&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q_IZS5OsRtc&feature=related))

SONG

# Da pacem cordium

♩ = 72

Da pacem cordium (canon)

Da pa-cem cor-di - um. Da pa-cem cor-di - um.

Pa - - - - - cem. Pa - - - - - cem. Da

Translation: Give peace to every heart. Give peace to every heart. Give peace, Lord. Give peace, Lord.

### Litany based on "Advent" by Daniel Berrigan

*(All say what is in bold.)*

This is true: For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him, shall not perish, but have everlasting life.

**It is not true that we must accept inhumanity and discrimination, hunger and poverty, death and destruction --**

This is true: I have come that they may have life, and that abundantly.

**It is not true that violence and hatred should have the last word, and that war and destruction rule forever --**

This is true: For unto us a child is born, and unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder, And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, the Everlasting, the Prince of Peace.

**It is not true that we are simply victims of the powers of evil who seek to rule the world --**

This is true: To me is given authority in heaven and on earth, and lo, I am with you, even unto the end of the world.

**It is not true that we have to wait for those who are specially gifted, who are the prophets of the Church, before we can be peacemakers.**

This is true: I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your young shall see visions, and your old shall have dreams.

**It is not true that our hopes for the liberation of humanity, for justice, human dignity, and peace are not meant for this earth and for this history --**

This is true: The hour comes, and it is now, that true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth.

**Closing Prayer**

*(From Bill Wylie Kellermann, Seasons of Faith and Conscience)*

"To keep Lent is to follow Jesus in the prayer of wilderness and garden.

"To keep Lent is to confront the principalities and powers first of all in prayer. With Jesus we face the dark side of ourselves this is so susceptible to capture and control by the powers. If it happens that we keep vigil publicly at the gates of economic, military, political or religious authority, we do so confessionally, acknowledging the solidarity of sin.

"To keep Lent is to discover and remember who in heaven's name we are, as person and community. We pray against all confusers and confusions for our true identity and vocation. We know that means standing before the cross and making some choices.

"The grace of this season is that Jesus suffers the choice with us. He's been over the turf and is our brother exactly on that score, with us in the struggle of our hearts. Let the further grace be that we make our choice as disciples, in the mind and heart of Christ."

\*\*\*\*To all here today: THANKS FOR YOUR WITNESS!\*\*\*\*

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