

Pastoral Prayer
December 6, 2020

Holy One,

As human beings have shouted “war” down the centuries, you have whispered, “peace.”

May we attend to your whisper amidst the cacophonous shouts.

We do not have peace in our world, O God, with greed and hubris engaged in competition with wisdom and the public good. We need your help to attain and maintain your values of love and compassion, for we have not attained them ourselves.

We do not have peace in our community, O God, because there are households where one member imposes their will upon the others. We do not have peace in our community because there are households wondering how they eat their next meal. We do not have peace in our community because there are households without houses. We need your help to build this peace, O God, because we have not built it ourselves.

We do not have peace in our hearts, O God. We may be fogged by self-doubt or self-loathing; we may be distracted by the things we think we know; we may be depressed or lonely or just longing to get out. Some of the things we have tried work, O God, but we need your help to fulfil the longings of our souls. We have not fulfilled them ourselves.

With your aid, O God, may we attain a peaceful world, build a peaceful community, and fulfil peaceful souls. In Jesus name,

Amen.