

DIAKONIA Prayer for May 2017

PRAYER OF LAMENTATION AND HOPE

Resurrected Christ, We Offer our Lamentations

We are shaken by the winds, Hear our cry!

The lands of Asia and the Pacific are being destroyed.
The mountains, forests and oceans are raped and stripped off their life and beauty;
The rivers, fields and hills are ravaged severely;
Communities are abolished, smothered, violated and choked in their search of right to life incessantly;
The women, men, youth and children are displaced, some are killed and demonized daily;
The grip of life force and energy vanishing slowly;

Chime Rings: People in reflective silence

Response: Give us courage to speak of justice, peace and love we pray to you

O Resurrected Christ!

We are shaken by the winds, Hear our cry!

Many women and men from the Asian and Pacific countries are forced to work in foreign lands in search for decent life,
Etch a living in foreign territories, many are in pain and lonely;
Men and women suffer from being treated unjustly, lined up on death rows, and stripped off their human dignity.
Families back home suffers from hardships, confusion, and instability crying desperately;

Chime Rings: People in reflective silence

Response: Give us courage to live; to speak of justice, peace and love in the midst of uncertainty.

We are shaken by the Winds Hear our Cry

Poverty shakes us into confusion in many places in Asia and the Pacific;
Families suffering, in hopelessness, facing the future dimly
Thousands of men, women and children are displaced daily;
Restlessness, hunger, confusion, sickness, chaos confuse humanity;
Children agonizing, anxious, stripped off their right to daily joyful living.

Chime Rings; people in reflective silence

**Response: Give us courage to speak of justice and peace oh God our Creator,
Hear our cry!**

Oh Resurrected Christ, wage us the winds of your love to shake us into the reality
Of your love, giving us hope and courage;
Shake and cloth us with the winds of justice and peace in our barrenness and
desolation,
Our prayer and song for justice and peace becomes a daily reality;
We are shaken by your love in the midst of hopelessness; We are shaken by your
compassion as you overcome death on the Cross to save us!

Chime Rings; people in reflective silence

Shake us by your winds of love;

Upright we are, fearing God and departing from evil;
Firmly believe in You God alone to help us, enough power to defend the weak and
desolate,
Help us to love and work for peace, to restore the earth and humanity;
Unleash justice to those suffering, crash the bonds of evil, stop any war;
Doing mission among victims of war, ensure justice and safety nets especially with
women, youth and children;

Shake us by your winds of love Oh Resurrected Christ;

Engage us in actions to ensure life and abundance
Love, courage and justice be the way of life
Compassion, grace and vocation be the winds of our daily lives
In your name we commit, AMEN

Prayer: God of hope, whose spirit gives light and power to your people, empower us to witness to your name in all the nations, to struggle for your own justice against all principalities and powers and to persevere with faith and humor in the tasks that you have given to us. Without you we are powerless. Therefore we cry together. (- Guide to Prayer, Upper Room Books, Nashville)

Closing: Chime Rings

EMMA A. CANTOR
Ref: NRSV Bible,
Philippine UPR Watch
Rendering justice to victims of human rights violations