

We Pray to End Racism in Our Land

Oh God, with anguish
We pray that we may find ways
To move forward towards the light.
Not back into the shadows
Of hatred, violence,
And the silence that protects it.

We pray for the wisdom
To know how to move ahead.
We recognize that evil
Can overtake a nation,
As history reveals;
We recognize too that
Reconciliation is possible,
That peace can flourish
Where once hate and violence reigned.

Oh God, with anguish
We pray that we may find ways
To move forward towards the light.
Not back into the shadows
Of hatred, violence,
And the silence that protects it.

We pray that all citizens of good will
Speak out again and again
So the sound of Your justice
Drowns out the cries of hatred,
The deafening silence that protects it.

May we as a nation form a circle,
Inclusive, with no top or bottom,
Where we can welcome everyone
With outstretched hands.

May our circle grow ever larger,
More hands open, holding another's palm,
Realizing we are holding on to the hope
Pope Francis calls us to
If we can see we are all connected. Amen.

After the recent acts of racism in our cities we pray that we may find ways to move forward towards the light, not back into the shadows of hatred and violence.