

A Psalm of Lament for Immigrants and Refugees

O Lord, our God,
Why do You stand far off when the stranger is mistreated?
Why do You seem silent as the weary traveler is turned away at our gates?

Tears fall on the borderlands,
Children cry for parents lost in the shuffle of policy and power,
Mothers cradle hope in their arms, only to see it dashed by cold laws and colder hearts.

We confess, O God,
Our nation has closed its ears to the stories of the oppressed,
We have built walls of fear and suspicion,
And forgotten that You once called Your people to welcome the sojourner.

Have mercy, Lord, for we have failed to love as You commanded.
We have turned away from those fleeing violence and hunger,
We have hardened our hearts to the plight of the refugee,
And justified our indifference with empty words.

How long, O Lord, will justice be delayed?
How long will compassion be trampled in the streets?
Will You not rise up to defend the powerless,
To shelter the homeless, to restore dignity to the exiled?

Remember Your promises, O God of Abraham,
Who led Your people out of bondage,
Who made a home for the wanderer,
Who became flesh and found no room at the inn.

Stir up Your church, O Lord,
Let us be a people of welcome and refuge,
Let us break down barriers of hatred and fear,
And open our arms to the stranger, as You have opened Yours to us.

Restore justice in our land,
Let mercy flow like a river,
And let the voices of the oppressed be heard and healed.
For You are the God who sees, who hears, who saves.

We wait for Your deliverance, O Lord,
And we will not be silent until Your kingdom of love and justice comes.. AMEN