

Litany – Litany of Hope and Struggle

One: Because injustice can break the most eager spirit
and force the abandonment of dreams,

*All: We hold tenderly our siblings
and grieve the loss of vibrancy and faith.*

One: Because fear can overwhelm goodness
and silence those whom God has called,

*All: We decry the betrayal of God's own
and announce our resolve to speak the truth of our lives.*

One: Because hate destroys the human heart
and limits the wonders of love,

*All: We open ourselves to compassion
and offer our lives as witnesses to the healing presence of God.*

One: Because complacency gives consent
to systems that oppress and harm,

*All: We refuse to cede our world to hurtful powers
and principalities and dare to dream new creations into being.*

One: Because courage in the face of fear and injustice is a holy deed,

*All: We celebrate the passion that chooses life in the midst of violence
and claims goodness of human dignity with power and grace.*

One: Because hope in a world of cynicism and doubt is a sacred act of resistance,

*All: We humbly stand and today proclaim:
Where hatred roars, we will sing of love.
Where fear stalks, we will stand with courage.
Where bigotry rages, we will call for justice.
Where pain overwhelms, we will extend kind comfort.
Where systems oppress, we will work for change.
Now and ever, now and ever, now and evermore.
Amen.*

Carol Wise (USA) From *Along the Arc* ©2017 Brethren Mennonite Council for LGBTQ Interests.
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