

A Prayer after Deeds of Terror

Lord and lover of humankind,
teach us to groan as you must groan,
sudden mourners, all of us.
Cry with us,
instruct us in the language of lamentation.

For wars we thought were far away
have snatched lives so near,
anonymous as our own, dear as our own.
And what shall we do, Lord,
with all our might?
What are we to do,
we who came to Jesus in baptism,
and are people of this nation?

In the horror of so much death,
tear open with us the gospel's hard truth:
Is this the hour to trample down violence,
to deny death any more lives,
to refuse the false safety of walls and weapons,
to beg of you, good Lord, the hardest courage
and so look anew at all that is amiss in our world?

Around the table of our assembly
we give you praise even in our lamentation,
and we hunger and greatly thirst:
for the body broken for all,
the blood poured out for the life of the world,
Jesus, who is Lord for ever and ever.
Amen.

Gabe Huck