



## IN REMEMBRANCE

LITANY FOR HIROSHIMA DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

*August 6, 2006, Eighteen Sunday in Ordinary Time*

**A**t 8:15 in the morning of August 6, 1945, an atomic bomb was dropped from a USA B-29 bomber on Hiroshima, Japan. More than one hundred seventy thousand people died instantly or within hours. Few were soldiers. This litany of confession brings that tragedy before God once again. It expresses both lament and longing—a longing for peace.

**One:** Infinite and Eternal God, who created the universe and pronounced it good, we often take the good and turn it into deeds that take, kill, and maim life in your universe. For being complicit and sometimes intentional in destroying what you have created and for killing living beings,

**Many:** **Forgive us, O God.**

**One:** For being a nation that destroyed Hiroshima and Nagasaki and killed hundreds of thousands of innocent children, women and men,

**Many:** **Forgive us, O God.**

**One:** For stockpiling enough nuclear weapons to destroy the earth many times over,

**Many:** **Forgive us, O God.**

**One:** For the Hibakusha, the survivors of the destruction of the Atomic Bombs in Japan, in Micronesia, and in New Mexico, and for those who survived the nuclear disaster at Chernobyl,

**Many:** **We pray to you, O God.**

**One:** For our nation that we will disarm as we compel other nations to disarm,



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**One:** For our nation that we will disarm as we compel other nations to disarm,

**Many: We pray to you, O God.**

**One:** God of Justice and Peace, we know you as a forgiving God and a loving God. Enable us to be a forgiving and a loving people, doing justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly with you.

**Many: We pray to you. O God. Amen.**



This litany was prepared by retired UCC minister Rev. David Hirano. David was the former Executive Minister for the Board for World Ministries, today Wider Church Ministries. He resides in Hawaii.

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