**Just Peace Sunday - Opening Prayers/Calls to Worship**

-Rev. Denise Andersen

We gather together

in the name of the One who bids us come.

**We gather together**

**to hear the words of the One who is Love.**

We gather together

to sing praises of the One who teaches peace.

**Come, let us worship!**

O God, you are a God of Life to us.

You show your Self as our source of compassion

as we struggle for whole relationships in the home,

our communities, our nation and our world.

We recognize your presence among us in our life and worship,

and ask your gentle Spirit to constantly open our hearts

to the ways of justice and peace.

We ask all of this in your Name,

because you alone are holy,

our true justice and peace.

Lord, we pray for the power to be gentle,

the strength to be forgiving,

the patience to be understanding,

and the endurance to accept the consequences

of holding to what we believe to be right.

May we put our trust in the power of good to overcome evil

and the power of love to overcome hatred.

We pray for the vision to see and the faith to believe

in a world emancipated from violence.

Help us to devote our whole life, thought and energy

to the task of making peace,

praying always for the inspiration and the power

to fulfill the destiny for which we were created.

         — from the Week of Prayer for World Peace, 1978