



## Litany for Refugees and Asylum-Seekers Refugee Justice Sunday

- L: O God of the wandering Israelites, refugees in a harsh land, who heard their cries for freedom, comfort, and refuge,
- P: Forgive us for having hearts as hard as Pharaoh's, when we resist your calls for care and mercy for those who have fled or are fleeing violence.
- L: O God of the Psalmist, who hears the lament of those surrounded by death, destruction, and fear,
- P: Give us the strength to embody "the land of the living"<sup>1</sup> where refugees and asylum-seekers can safely begin life anew.
- L: O God of the Christ-Child, whose own earthly parents were forced to flee the state-sanctioned violence of Herod, and find safety in a foreign nation,
- P: Give us hearts like the people of Egypt to offer not only refuge but welcome to those who arrive at our doorstep in need of safety and protection.
- L: O God who calls us to offer welcome to the stranger, just as we would offer it to Christ,
- P: Remind us today and every day

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<sup>1</sup> Psalm 27:13



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that we need not fear what we do not know,  
but are freed by following your Gospel call to welcome.

- L: O God of all people, of all nations and of all the earth,  
protect this day those in need of safety,  
put a salve on the souls of those grieving the loss  
of home, family, loved ones and memories,
- P: Give us the conviction to offer welcome, safety, Christian  
love and a space for new beginnings  
to refugees and asylum-seekers.  
Instill in our hearts the courage to love as Jesus taught us,  
in a world that encourages suspicion, fear and scarcity.
- All: O God of all sojourners in search of refuge,  
We ask you to create peace in this world  
so that none of your children live in places endangered by  
violence and civil unrest.  
We ask for comfort for all who have been forced to flee  
their homes, and we ask that those in need of peace and  
protection find both refuge and welcome.  
We give you thanks this day for refugees and asylum-  
seekers in our midst, and for the blessings they bring to  
our families, churches, communities and nation. Amen.

**Litany for Refugees and Asylum-Seekers** was written by Amanda K. Sheldon,  
Program Associate for UCC Refugee Ministries & UCC Disaster Ministries.  
Humanitarian and Development Ministries of Wider Church Ministries.

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