

# From Lamentation to Hope



Lamentations

*Illustration Courtesy of St. Mary Press*

A Prayer Service Reflecting on Ukraine, The Middle East,  
Haiti and Sudan

November 20, 2024 - 1:00 pm

St. Patrick - St. Anthony Church

# Call to Worship

~ Fr. Mike Johnson, OFM

## OPENING HYMN

## This Is My Song

1. This is my song, O God of all the na - tions, A song of peace for  
2. My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean, And sun - light beams on  
lands a - far and mine. This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;  
clo - ver - leaf and pine. But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,  
Here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine; But oth - er hearts in  
And skies are ev - 'ry - where as blue as mine. So hear my song, O  
oth - er lands are beat - ing With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.  
God of all the na - tions, A song of peace for their land and for mine.

Text: St. 1-2, Lloyd Stone, b.1912, © 1934, Lorenz Publishing Co., st. 3, Georgia Harkness, 1891-1974, © 1964, Lorenz Publishing Co.  
Tune: FINLANDIA, 11 10 11 10 11 10; Jean Sibelius, 1865-1957

## “*what they did yesterday afternoon*” by Warsan Shire

they set my aunt's house on fire  
i cried the way women on tv do  
folding at the middle  
like a 5 pound note.  
i called the boy who used to love me  
i tried to 'okay' my voice  
i said hello  
he said warsan, what's wrong? what happened?

I've been praying  
and these are what my prayers look like  
dear god  
i come from two countries  
one is thirsty  
the other is on fire  
both need water.

later that night  
i held an atlas in my lap  
ran my fingers across the whole world

and whispered  
where does it hurt?

it answered  
everywhere  
everywhere  
everywhere.

**A Contemporary Lament for Ukraine** (*adapted from Lamentations 1:1-3, 10-12*)      *Jack Wentland*

***Prayer Response Together***

*Lamentations 5:1-3*

Remember, O Lord, what has befallen us,  
    look and see our disgrace:  
Our inherited lands have been turned over to strangers,  
    our homes to foreigners.  
We have become orphans, fatherless;  
    widowed are our mothers

SONG REFRAIN: O Lord Hear My Prayer

*Taize*

O Lord, hear my prayer,  
O Lord, hear my prayer;  
when I call answer me.  
O Lord, hear my prayer,  
O Lord, hear my prayer;  
come and listen to me.

**A Contemporary Lament for Haiti**

*Mark Sherer*

***All Pray Together***

*Lamentations 2:11-12*

Worn out from weeping are my eyes;  
Within me all is in ferment  
    at the brokenness of the daughter of my people,  
As child and infant faint away in the open spaces of the town.  
They ask their mothers “where is the cereal?” in vain,  
    as they faint away like the wounded in the streets of the city,  
    as their life is poured out in their mother’s arms.

SONG REFRAIN: O Lord Hear My Prayer

*Taize*

O Lord, hear my prayer,  
O Lord, hear my prayer;

when I call answer me.  
O Lord, hear my prayer,  
O Lord, hear my prayer;  
come and listen to me.

## **A Contemporary Lament for the People of the Middle East**

*Joan Martin*

### ***Prayer Response together***

*Psalm 85:3*

I will listen for the word of God,  
Surely the Lord will proclaim peace to his people,  
to the faithful, to those who trust in him.

SONG REFRAIN: O Lord Hear My Prayer

*Taize*

O Lord, hear my prayer,  
O Lord, hear my prayer;  
when I call answer me.  
O Lord, hear my prayer,  
O Lord, hear my prayer;  
come and listen to me.

## **A Contemporary Lament for Sudan**

*Janet Bristow*

### ***Prayer Response together***

*Lamentations 2: 18*

Cry out to the Lord;  
Moan, O daughter Zion  
Let your tears flow like a torrent  
Day and night;  
Let there be no respite for you  
No repose for your eyes.

SONG REFRAIN: O Lord Hear My Prayer

*Taize*

O Lord, hear my prayer,  
O Lord, hear my prayer;  
when I call answer me.  
O Lord, hear my prayer,  
O Lord, hear my prayer;  
come and listen to me.

**Christ Be Our Light** - *Bernadette Farrell*

In deepest night, shadows are lifted  
Now let your servant go forth in peace  
Your Word fulfilled, your promise honored  
Love that will never cease!

**Refrain:**

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts  
Shine through the darkness  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today

With our own eyes, we see salvation  
Within our hearts, we are set free  
Your Word made flesh, hope of the nations  
Light for the world to see!

**Refrain**

Christ, be our hope! Christ, be our purpose!  
Christ, be our vision, radiant and bright!  
Christ, be our Way, shatt'ring our blindness  
Gifting us with your sight!

**Refrain**

*Please extinguish candles*

**Concluding Reflection**

*Fr. Mike Johnson*

**Let us pray**

Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN**

May truth and freedom come to every nation;  
may peace abound where strife has raged so long;  
that each may seek to love and build together;  
a world united, righting every wrong;  
a world united in its love for freedom  
proclaiming peace together in one song.

This Is My Song Verse 3

Tune: Jean Sibelius

Verse 3 Lyrics: Georgia Harkness (1807- 1974)