

Confession in response to violence in Charlottesville

Celebrant:

Too often, we stand silent in the shadow of division, bigotry, and hatred in our midst.
As we look upon the evil unfolding in Virginia, Lord, change our hearts
to speak love and unity, boldly and ceaselessly in the face of darkness.

For the ways that we have been complicit...

People:

God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Celebrant:

The drums of war beat ever louder, humanity at odds with itself.
Yet we are called to turn our swords into plowshares,
Called to open doors into which strangers and aliens would be welcomed as family.

For the ways we have walled off our homes and our lives...

People:

God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Celebrant:

For the unique burdens that lay upon our hearts today, Lord hear our prayers.

(Silence)

We humble ourselves, Lord, seeking your forgiveness.

People:

God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Celebrant:

Brothers and sisters. Our Father of mercies, through the death and resurrection of his Son has reconciled the world to himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins. Receive pardon and grace. Lift your heads, and stand tall once more.

All:

Lamb of God, grant us your peace. Amen.