**Litany of Reconciliation and Nonviolence**

By: Rev. Dr. Angela Yarber

From the Vatican: Faced with the death of a man, a Christian never rejoices, but reflects on the serious responsibility of each and every one of us before God and before [human], and hopes and commits himself so that no event be an opportunity for further growth of hatred, but for peace.

From King Solomon in Proverbs 24:17: Do not rejoice when your enemies fall, and do not let your heart be glad when they stumble.

From womanist theologian, Audre Lorde: And hatred is a deathwish for the hated, not a lifewish for anything else. (“Eye To Eye: Black Women, Hatred, and Anger”)

From the Qur’an 41:34-35: Good and evil cannot be equal. Repel evil with what is better and your enemy will become as close as an old and valued friend, but only those who are steadfast in patience, only those who are blessed with great righteousness, will attain such goodness.

From nun and peace activist, Mother Teresa: If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other. What can you do to promote world peace? Go home and love your family.

From civil rights martyr and Baptist minister, Martin Luther King, Jr: I mourn the loss of thousands of precious lives, but I will not rejoice in the death of one, not even an enemy. Returning hate for hate multiplies hate, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that.

From the Gospel of Luke 24: When Jesus was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him.