

Choosing the Path of Peace: Remembering All Those Who Lost Their Lives to Gun Violence

We pray in the spirit of the Psalms:
We are in distress, we are in anguish.
Our tears are bitter as once again
The lives you have created
Are disrespected, destroyed,
Because of fear, of hate, of refusal
To see the others as part of oneself,
Because weapons are more common
Than compassion, than solidarity.

We pray for the dead,
For their families and friends in grief.
We pray for the living,
May the healing begin,
For the wounded,
For all those in the frantic crowd,
For the local communities,
For this nation,
In distress, in anguish.

We pray that we may begin
To see the violence end
And peace be with us all. Amen.

— Jane Deren, Ph.D.

