

# Prayer Vigil *for the Taken*

**A note on use:** We encourage you to download this file and make hard copies for in-person distribution. A digital PDF that works well on phones and mobile devices is also available at [globalrefuge.org/act-now](https://globalrefuge.org/act-now).

*Please share this resource with others in your community!*

May this vigil validate the humanity and names of those who are deported or abducted, bring healing to the bereaved, and call for justice and an embrace of all of God's children.

*In the name of Christ, who walks with us, Amen.*

## **Opening +**

*Silence is held.*

May the God of all nations embrace *community/this block/neighborhood/town/nation* deeply in this moment, and grant healing and comfort that spans time, distance, loss, and all injury. Amen.

## **Naming**

In this location, name(s) was taken. *He/she/they* lived here, stood here, passed by here. Name(s) was part of this *community* and in recent days, *they* were removed from this *community*.

*Silence is held.*

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, healed many as a sign that God's reign was near. He sent the disciples to continue this work of healing—with prayer, the laying on of hands, and anointing. God used the hands and feet of his disciples to carry Jesus' healing acts through all of time. In the name of Christ, whose healing power remains strong today, we now entrust to God's healing power name(s) and this *community*.

*Silence is held.*

## **Reading**

*A reading from Isaiah 43:*

<sup>1</sup>But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine. <sup>2</sup>When you pass through the waters, I will be with you, and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. <sup>3</sup>For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. (NRSVUE)

## Song

Any of the following, or others like these, may be sung:

- *Oh Lord Hear My Prayer – Taize*
- *We Shall Not Be Moved*
- *We Are Marching in the Light of God (Siyahamba)*
- *Here I Stand*

### Here I Stand

(Where My Neighbor Stood)

Chords: D, Em, Bm, G

Here I stand where my neigh - bor stood. Hold - ing peace for my neigh - bor hood.

We won't be

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Chords: D, Em, Bm, G

Here I stand where my neigh - bor stood. Hold - ing peace for my neigh - bor hood.

Ta - ken... We won't be sha - ken... We won't be

Beirne, 2026

## Blessing

Gracious God, we ask for your blessing upon our sibling(s), name/s, who have enriched this *community* and blessed us by being a part of it. Now bless and preserve *them* at this time of separation. Day by day, guide *them* and give *them* what is needed—dignity, security, justice, and peace. Stir in us Your Spirit, that we might do our part to preserve and defend the dignity and security of our neighbors.

Give us courage. Give name(s) courage. Carry us, together, from here. In the name of our Jesus Christ who Himself endured these forces. Amen.

Almighty God bless us and direct our days and our deeds in peace. Amen.

Adapted from ELW “Farewell and Godspeed,” “Comforting the Bereaved,” and “Brief Order of Healing.” (Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2026).

Now, *act*.

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