

## **PRAYER OF LAMENT AND LIBERATION**

God of all nations, the suffering on this earth seems too great, the oppression of your people everywhere cries out for healing and hope. We do not understand how we have come to this sad place after so much opportunity, and grace. We are *not* content, and we come to You with our complaints.

We are yearning for the freedom that You have always promised to the saints, the mystics, and the prophets. We desire freedom of heart and mind for ourselves, truth and justice for all peoples, all creatures on this earth, and for the earth itself. We desire to be useable instruments for the purposes of God.

May we not substitute our own darkness for anybody's light — nor too easy light for any necessary and needed darkness. Make us both humble and courageous at the same time, soft and strong together, properly bitter and properly sweet. We offer this prayer in deep trust that You are a Compassionate God who is listening and even answering our prayer. AMEN.



*“Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who substitute darkness for light and light for darkness, who substitute bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter”. (Isaiah 5:20)*

*“On that day, the remnant will stop relying on the hand that strikes them, and will truly rely on God, the Holy One”. (10:20)*