

# Prayers in Response to Tragic News Stories

Written by Ally Barrett

Use prayerfully or for those wishing to lead congregations in lament on Sunday or on any occasion with this new hymn.

Ally writes this: "I couldn't sleep. Too many fears and tears for such a broken world. So I wrote this as a prayer, to the tune Kings Lynn (aka O God of earth and altar)"

O God of all salvation  
In this, our darkest hour,  
Look down at your creation  
With pity and with power.  
In all the pain we're seeing,  
For parent, partner, friend,  
We'll cling with all our being  
To love that cannot end.

O God, your loving passion  
Is deeper than our pain,  
Look down, and in compassion  
Bring us to life again.  
When we are found despairing,  
When all seems lost to sin,  
We'll hear your voice declaring  
That love alone will win.

O God, when hate grows stronger,  
With fear to pave its way,  
The cry, 'Lord, how much longer?'  
With broken hearts we pray.  
In all that is dismaying  
In humankind's freewill,  
We'll join our voices, praying  
That love will triumph still.

O God, whose love will never  
Be silenced, stalled or stilled,  
Set us to work wherever  
There's bridges to rebuild.  
We'll take our life's vocation  
To make, like heav'n above,  
In this and every nation  
A kingdom built on love.