# Prayers for Peace, Hope and Justice

**Context**

- A world spinning out of control it seems – global warming, wars, refugee crises, immigration statistics – definitely a change of world order in the air.
- Elections, both local and global – created noisy debate among the would be powerful.
- Christian Nationalism has also been in the spotlight recently. A burning issue we as South African society need to resolve honestly, to seek peace through acknowledgement and debate.
- The World is in such deep need of grace, but the barrage of progress allows little time for much else.

Oh, Love that will not let us go.
The noise around us drowns out the cries of the poor.
The clamour for power and the worship of wealth muffles the groans of the neglected and abused.
In your mercy, hear our cries of lament.

How long must the child suffer neglect?
How long must women beg to feel safe?
How long must the poor remain hopeless?
How long must telling the truth be a death sentence?
How long must corrupt officials be protected?
How long must politics trump principles?
How long must the gospel be used to separate and punish?

We confess we are fatigued.
We are sickened by the visual evidence of cruelty on our screens.
We are angered at corruption and fraud that steal from the poor.
We are aghast at the lies that parade as justification.
We are repulsed at the vulgar display of ill-gotten wealth.
We are frantic at the pace that seems to be out of control.

We stand still before you, for you are God.
You know all things and neither slumber nor sleep.
In you we are one – help us to overcome our fear and live that out.
In you we are equal – help us to appreciate the gift of the other.
In you we find redemption – our brokenness restored and our gifts honed.
In you we find hope – that you will bring peace and justice to a troubled world.

Have mercy on us. Amen.