***After a Violent Event:***

***For Pastors and Others Giving Support***

God our refuge, shelter us under your wings

as we kneel before you in grief and pain.

We pray for all those who have lost

a beloved child, parent, sibling, lover, or friend . . .

those who have witnessed horror . . .

those who are wounded in body or spirit . . .

for each of them is a child made in your image.

We pray for ourselves, O Lord.

Restore our hope, and mend our hearts,

even as we weep with grief and tremble with anger.

Give us strength to support the brokenhearted,

your grace to be confident in your presence here,

and your light to find our way in the darkness,

that we may be bearers of your light

to all we encounter;

in the name of Jesus, we pray. **Amen.**

*Book of Common Worship* (WJK, 2018), 593

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***After an Act of Violence***

God of grace and peace,

we pray for the city of \_\_\_\_\_\_

and the people of [nation or state].

Help and heal the wounded,

receive the dying into your embrace,

and comfort those who mourn.

Strengthen rescue and relief workers

who protect and provide for others

in the midst of crisis and chaos.

Give leaders the wisdom and determination

to understand the causes of hatred

and prevent it from gaining force.

Put an end to all violence and war,

and restrain the impulse

to use injustice to seek justice.

Continue to pour out your mercy

upon the victims of violence in

[other places of recent violence],

and all the places we forget or ignore.

Surround us all with your grace

and bring peace to our weary world.

This we pray in Jesus’ name. **Amen.**

*Book of Common Worship* (WJK, 2018), 621–622

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***For Peace among Nations***

Almighty God,

guide all the nations of the world

into your ways of justice and truth.

Establish among us that peace

which is the fruit of righteousness,

that this world may become the kingdom

of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*Book of Common Worship* (WJK, 2018), 627

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