

Dear Friends in Baton Rouge, Dallas, and the Twin Cities,

We want to offer our sympathy and support to you as you face the tragedies that have afflicted your cities. This is a time when words are inadequate, but along with our prayers, are what we have to share. Sometimes silence is enough, and we know you can trust Quakers everywhere to be with you in spirit. But sometimes a spoken word is appreciated, and so we send this message and offer this prayer.

“Dearest Spirit of Love,

We stand in faith before you, knowing in a place beyond knowing that though an ocean of darkness and death opens under us, your infinite ocean of light and love unceasingly flows above and through it. We pray for remembrance for those lost in the terrible killings in these three cities, for healing for those who mourn, and, in a place beyond but deepened by remembrance, for continued strength and sense of purpose to carry your message of light and love to the world. We are grateful for the heritage of advocacy and activism you have given us. Strengthen our hands, which you have lent us for our time here on earth, and guide our feet. Keep us close to your heart in our time of grief, and always.

He was led like a sheep to the slaughter,
and as a lamb before its shearer is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation he was deprived of justice.

Who can speak of his descendants?

For his life was taken from the earth.” Acts 8: 32-33

We will speak, Lord. Guide our words.

Amen.”

Our hearts are with you.

Lucinda Antrim, Clerk
Christopher Sammond, General Secretary
New York Yearly Meeting