

We love refugees, but...

A liturgy based on messages from people supporting the Executive Order on Immigration to the United States

(<http://www.cnn.com/2017/01/30/politics/travel-ban-supporters-trump/index.html>)

Congregation/Reader 1: *We love refugees but we want only those coming here who love us and want to assimilate into our culture and way of life. (Debbie from Florida)*

Response: Jesus asks, “If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that?” (Matt 5:46-47)

Congregation/Reader 2: *We need to look at our country first right now... a country without borders is no longer a country. (Jessica from California)*

Response: Paul reminds us “So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus”. (Galatians 3:26-28)

Congregation/Reader 3: *If you want to get here, you wait your chance, you wait your turn... 3 months, 6 months – it’s nothing. They can wait. (Helen from Washington)*

We love refugees, but...

A liturgy based on messages from people supporting the Executive Order on Immigration to the United States

(<http://www.cnn.com/2017/01/30/politics/travel-ban-supporters-trump/index.html>)

Congregation/Reader 1: *We love refugees but we want only those coming here who love us and want to assimilate into our culture and way of life. (Debbie from Florida)*

Response: Jesus asks, “If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that?” (Matt 5:46-47)

Congregation/Reader 2: *We need to look at our country first right now... a country without borders is no longer a country. (Jessica from California)*

Response: Paul reminds us “So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus”. (Galatians 3:26-28)

Congregation/Reader 3: *If you want to get here, you wait your chance, you wait your turn... 3 months, 6 months – it’s nothing. They can wait. (Helen from Washington)*

Response: Jesus decided to heal a man on the Sabbath. To those who thought he should wait until after the Sabbath to help, he responded: “If any of you has a sheep and it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will you not take hold of it and lift it out? How much more valuable is a person than a sheep! (Matt 12:11-12)

Congregation/Reader 4: *Thank God that somebody is tightening the borders and they’re going to properly vet these people, even if it means keeping most of them out. They don’t have the right to be here to begin with. They don’t have constitutional rights to be here. They’re here by the grace of God, just like I’m here by the grace of God. (Robert from Texas)*

Response: Jesus reminds us “I was a stranger and you invited me in... Whatever you did for the one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me” (Matt 25:35, 40)

ALL: Lord God, may we keep our hearts open to the stranger. May we not turn our gaze inward and forget about our neighbour. May we respond with love to those with whom we disagree. And may we continue to uphold your truth in a time when truth is not always valued or respected.

Response: Jesus decided to heal a man on the Sabbath. To those who thought he should wait until after the Sabbath to help, he responded: “If any of you has a sheep and it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will you not take hold of it and lift it out? How much more valuable is a person than a sheep! (Matt 12:11-12)

Congregation/Reader 4: *Thank God that somebody is tightening the borders and they’re going to properly vet these people, even if it means keeping most of them out. They don’t have the right to be here to begin with. They don’t have constitutional rights to be here. They’re here by the grace of God, just like I’m here by the grace of God. (Robert from Texas)*

Response: Jesus reminds us “I was a stranger and you invited me in... Whatever you did for the one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me” (Matt 25:35, 40)

ALL: Lord God, may we keep our hearts open to the stranger. May we not turn our gaze inward and forget about our neighbour. May we respond with love to those with whom we disagree. And may we continue to uphold your truth in a time when truth is not always valued or respected.

Provided by Immigrant & Refugee Services,
Corps Ministries Dept.



Giving Hope Today

Provided by Immigrant & Refugee Services,
Corps Ministries Dept.



Giving Hope Today