

A Prayer in response to the Christchurch mosque shootings

Dear God, this should not have happened!

We thought our country was free from deadly hatred like that acted out in Christchurch . . .

We turn to you and ask: 'Where were you when it happened?'

In silence we hold before you those who are affected by this tragedy:

families who are grieving for members who were killed . . .

those waiting for news from the hospital . . .

people who came to this country seeking safety from persecution

whose fears are rekindled . . .

communities in Christchurch recovering from earthquake trauma,
again, under stress . . .

Loving God – in the silence we learn that you *are* there . . .

there with those who are suffering . . .

there in the acts of bravery by people in the mosque and by those passing by . . .

there in the emergency services – ambulance, police, hospital and others . . .

there in the caring response from the whole country. . .

and so, we thank you.

This is our prayer. Amen

Written for Tawa Union Church

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