



A Prayer for Sunday, Dec. 17
Following the attack on Bethel Memorial Methodist Church, Quetta, Pakistan

God of glory, upon waking this morning we heard of another bombing in another church. I breathed a sigh of relief to hear that only 10 people lost their lives. And then caught myself 10 people – worshippers – brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ were killed. How long before the Prince of Peace comes?

God of glory, we bring before you the grieving and the injured of Bethel Memorial Methodist Church, Quetta, Pakistan – lifting them up to you that you might bring hope, healing and show them your compassion. We pray for our Christian sisters and brothers in Pakistan who experience persecution and violence.

God of glory, give us hope and courage to proclaim even today, even in the midst of the world in which we live, that your Son Jesus Christ is the Prince of Peace and that his reign of peace and justice, righteousness and love is coming. Give us the confidence to proclaim this astounding news.

God of glory, all glory and honour and praise belong to you. Bring glory to your name through your people as we praise you and prepare to welcome your Son, Jesus Christ, anew.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

—*The Rev. Peter Bush, moderator of the 2017 (143rd) General Assembly*