A Litany for Refugees and Migrants

Prepared by: The Rev. Evelyn Butler (Deacon, St John’s, West Toronto), the Rev. Lorna May, (Deacon St Luke’s, Creemore) and the Rev. Michael Van Dusen, (Deacon, St Aidan’s, Toronto)

Loving God we lift up to you people who have fled and are fleeing their homes to escape persecution through death, torture, ruthless exploitation. We pray especially for children travelling alone in dangerous situations. Good Shepherd, no refugee is a stranger to you, or far from your love. Shelter their souls and bodies.

Loving God, strengthen us to witness your love for all people

**Response: In Jesus name we pray**

We also pray for all who are fleeing drought and famine, floods and fires, earthquakes and hurricanes. Give us the wisdom to understand that these people are suffering the consequences of a lifestyle that consumes far, far more than our fair share of resources; the discipline to reduce our demands and the grace to welcome those who are suffering the worst consequence.

Loving God, strengthen us to witness your love for all people

**Response: In Jesus name we pray**

Help us to remember all who tonight will go to sleep unfed and unwelcome; strangers in foreign lands, people who have fled for their lives and are far from their homes.  
Loving God, strengthen us to witness your love for all people

**Response: In Jesus name we pray**

We pray for all in authority throughout the world who make decisions that impact refugees. Grant them wisdom, compassion and courage to tackle the root causes of the refugee crisis.

Loving God, strengthen us to witness your love for all people

**Response: In Jesus name we pray**

Gracious God, you call us to welcome people who come to our land to escape oppression, poverty, persecution, violence, and war. Help us to remember that we all belong to the same human family. Help us to honour the sacrifice of migrants and refugees with actions more than words.

Loving God, strengthen us to witness your love for all people

**Response: In Jesus name we pray**

Help us to remember that we are many parts of a single body, each one unique and every one necessary, all of us searching for an eternal place where we can belong. We pray that we will be examples of inclusion and nurturing. Give us voices that refuse to remain silent, and hands to reach out in welcome.

Loving God, strengthen us to witness your love for all people

**Response: In Jesus name we pray**

Help us to be aware of the fears, anxiety, pain, sorrow, uncertainty all refugees suffer and to know that many refugees carry wounds, mental and physical and have suffered greatly. Give us compassionate hearts for those who had courage to flee their homes but live in hope and strive for a desire to better our world.

Loving God strengthen us to witness your love for all people

**Response: In Jesus name we pray**

Help us by your grace to banish fear from our hearts, that we may embrace each of your children as our own brother and sister and sibling; to welcome migrants and refugees with joy and generosity, while responding to their many needs; to realize that you call all people to learn the ways of peace and justice and to share our abundance.

Loving God strengthen us to witness your love for all people

**Response: In Jesus name we pray**

Most gracious and loving God, no one is a stranger to you and no one is ever far from your loving care. Look with mercy on those who today are fleeing from danger, are homeless and are hungry. Bless those who work to bring them relief, inspire generosity and compassion in all our hearts, and guide the nations of the world towards that day when all will rejoice in your reign of justice and of peace. We ask in Jesus’ name, who also was a refugee and migrant and who had no place to call home,

**AMEN**