

## COMMUNITY AFFIRMATION

We who stand here in sorrow for the victims of all violence today declare our hope in the future.

We have come to renew our belief in the holiness of the earth, and the sanctity of all life.

We declare we are at peace with all people of good will.

We need no leader to define for us any enemy,  
nor to tell us what we need security for and defence against.

Instead we affirm that our earth's security rests not in armaments but:  
in the justice of adequate housing and food,  
in the justice of meaningful education and work,  
in the justice of an economic order that gives everyone access to our earth's abundance,  
in the justice of human relationships, nourished by co-operation,  
in the justice of safe, clean water and renewable energy.

We affirm people over property, community well-being over private satisfaction, and respect for others regardless of sex, race, class or religion.

We unite ourselves with sisters and brothers the world over, to join together in communities of resistance to all violence.

We unite ourselves with trust in the Holy Spirit.

Bombs cannot dissolve hatred, but justice and love can overcome the machines of destruction.

Before us today are set Life and Death.

We choose Life, that we and the world's children may live.

Let it be so.