

RESURRECTION CHURCH | EAST BOSTON

[www.resurrectionbos.org](http://www.resurrectionbos.org)

January 10, 2021

**Reader One:**

O God, we tire of confession; we are weary of lament.  
Do you tire of listening? Are you exhausted by our groaning?  
Are you sleeping? Or are we?  
So deep are we in darkness  
that we struggle to see the epiphany Light of your globe-enveloping love.  
So overwhelmed, angry, downcast, scared, and numb  
that we struggle to remember you, let alone cry out to you.  
Your burden is light, but it feels impossibly heavy.  
In your mercy, hear our stumbling prayers in these perilous days.

**ALL: Lord have mercy,  
Christ have mercy,  
Lord have mercy.**

**Reader Two:**

You have called us to sow righteousness and reap steadfast love,  
To act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with you, our God.  
Instead we have sown seeds of division and discord, of pride and selfishness,  
Seeds of power-loving greed, of violence, of hypocrisy,  
Seeds of envy, of deceit, of oppression,  
Seeds fraught with fear and contempt of others,  
We reap a bitter harvest: injustice, unrighteousness, oppression, unrest.  
Look upon us, Lord! We are helpless to save ourselves.

**ALL: Lord have mercy,  
Christ have mercy,  
Lord have mercy.**

**Reader Three:**

Our lamentations are stacked far too high!  
We lament the violent mob that stormed the capitol with signs bearing Jesus' Name.  
We lament the association of your most precious Name with terrorism and treachery.  
We lament the lies, the violence, the abuses of power, and the loss of life.  
We lament the deep division in our hearts, our families, our nation, and your Church.  
We lament the pain, the fear, the festering wounds.  
Save us, O God!

**ALL: Lord have mercy,  
Christ have mercy,**

**Lord have mercy.**

**Reader Four:**

We lament the adultery of your Church in her pursuit of other lovers who promise power, safety, elevated status, freedom, and liberty.

We lament as a Church complicit with the sins of our nation: white supremacy, racism, Christian nationalism, political idolatry, and all ideologies and actions that stand in opposition to your kingdom, your justice, and your peace.

Forgive us, Lord.

Uproot and burn away these sins among us and your people.

**ALL: Lord have mercy,  
Christ have mercy,  
Lord have mercy.**

**Reader Five:**

Teach us to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with you.

Forgive our cowardice, numbness, superiority, and prejudice.

Grant us true, deep repentance and holistic transformation of life that we may serve you faithfully and enduringly in the cause of your peace, justice, and righteousness.

Let us be those long-suffering disciples who embody and bear witness to your promised shalom.

**ALL: Lord have mercy,  
Christ have mercy,  
Lord have mercy.  
Amen.**