



## **A Litany for Healing and Hope**

Remembering the Violence at

Northern Illinois University on February 14, 2008

***Based on Psalm 30 for the Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany***

We extol you, O LORD, as you draw us up in this moment of remembrance. We rejoice that even in the violence and pain of a year ago, you have brought us to this new day.

**O Lord our God, we give thanks to you forever.**

O Lord, you brought us up out of the deep darkness of violence and death on campus.

**We give thanks to your holy name.**

Just as we walk forward in healing, we pray that you would bring peace and restore joy to the families whose children were killed.

**O Lord our God, hear our cry; turn their mourning into dancing--  
clothe them with joy.**

We pray for those who were wounded in body and soul. In your mercy, bind up their wounds and soothe their pain.

**O Lord our God, hear our cry and bring healing.**

We pray for friends of those who were killed or wounded. May their sorrow, their anger, their loneliness be but for a moment.

**O Lord our God, hear our cry and bring healing.**

We pray for the Northern Illinois University community: students, faculty and staff. By your favor, O Lord, strengthen them as they meet the challenges that continue to unfold in these tumultuous days.

**To you, O LORD, we cry.**

We pray for Lutheran Campus Ministry, for our campus pastor and for our ecumenical partners in ministry at NIU. Be helper and guide to all on campus who tell of your faithfulness through their healing and supportive ministries.

**Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to them!**

We pray for those who responded unselfishly and tirelessly in the midst of terror. We thank you for doctors, nurses, medical staff, fire and emergency personnel, police, investigators, university personnel and all others who came quickly to the aid of your people a year ago and who continue to minister today. May healing come to them as they continue to serve in faithfulness and goodness.

**Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to them!**

We pray for all who have been affected by the violence on campus. We pray especially for....

**Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to them!**

In the days and months following the senseless violence on campus, we have cried to you for help and you have ushered in healing. May your healing continue in us in and in our world.

**We pray for healing in our lives, our homes, our schools, our communities and our world.**

**To you, O Lord, we cry, and to you Lord we make supplication.**

You restore us to life, you save us from our foes and you bring us up out of pain. You are our strength and our hope.

**You turn our mourning into dancing; you take off the sackcloth  
and clothe us with joy.**

**Our souls are not silent but they praise you.**

**O Lord our God, we give thanks to you forever!**