

World Refugee Day – June 20



Back home in Myanmar, widow & grandsons. ©UNHCR/C. Schwetz

Call to Worship

Leader: Around the globe, 12 million refugees are caught between the future and the past.

Response: Caught between looking for a new home while longing to return to their old homes.

Leader: Men, women, and children who have had their lives put on hold.

Response: Waiting for the world's solution to their predicament.

Leader: Waiting for the people of God to offer a hand of assistance.

Invocation

God of all peoples, we ask your blessings upon the sojourners of this world and our ministries with them. Guide those who are fleeing violence and terror and give them safety in their refuge. Open our minds and our hearts to your concern for the uprooted. Help us remember that your people were once strangers in the land of Egypt. Help us recall that their exodus was of refugees fleeing to a promised home. We hear the cries of each and every person who is a refugee today. Please guide our response. **Amen.**

Scripture

Exodus 3:7, 9-10

Exodus 22:21

Leviticus 19:33-34

Deuteronomy 24:17-18

Job 31:32

Isaiah 58:6-7

Matthew 2:13-16

Matthew 25:37-40

Luke 9:46-48

Luke 10:29-37

Luke 22:27

Hebrews 13:1-2

Benediction

We have heard the cries of those who have no place to call home. O God, we have responded through your love, care, and concern to reach out to those who have fled from their homes. Help your church be a welcoming symbol of your hospitality. Give us the strength to be true symbols of your hospitality. Bless us in our ministries with the uprooted.

Amen.



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