

## in our lifetimes alone

God of peace,  
In our lifetimes alone,  
We have seen miracles of  
reconciliation  
Nations built by neighbors who  
were enemies for generations  
Living side by side as neighbors  
were meant to live.

In our lifetimes alone,  
We have seen imperial forces  
recede  
Not in the face of superior  
firepower  
But in the face of human dignity  
Standing and showing itself in all  
its glory.

In our lifetimes alone,  
We have seen walls tumble—  
Walls meant to separate the  
deadliest of foes—  
Greeted by the mutual embrace  
of a humanity  
That would not be separated.

In our lifetimes alone,  
We have seen Muslim and  
Christian  
Stand watch over one another in  
deadly times  
So one may bow and pray to  
you  
While the other watched and  
protected.

In our lifetimes alone,  
We have seen shoots of renewal  
spring up from the blood of  
martyrs  
Rather than the choking vines  
and thorns of revenge.

In our lifetimes alone,  
We have seen plagues beaten  
back  
We have seen fruits bloom in the  
desert  
We have seen purses spilled  
open in times of great need  
We have seen strangers reach  
toward each other across  
every divide  
We have seen your children  
sacrifice themselves  
over and over for one another  
We have seen rattling sabers  
drawn, and then blessedly  
resheathed, in the face of  
prayer and wisdom.

God of peace,  
You sing to us of a time when  
the wolf shall dwell with the  
lamb  
In our lifetimes alone  
We have seen it.  
How can we doubt that you  
reign?

Amen