

No Place Too Desolate

A Prayer for Those Facing Hunger Crisis in Africa

When it was evening, the disciples came to Him and said, "This place is desolate and the hour is already late; so send the crowds away, that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." But Jesus said to them, "They do not need to go away; you give them something to eat!"

—Matthew 14:15-16

Lord and Savior,

When you taught us how to
feed the hungry,
You did not do it in a city or in
a garden,
But in a desolate place
Where few things grow green,
And life struggles to sustain
itself.

And so you taught us
That there is no place too
desolate
And no hour too late
For the love of God to
triumph.

Our hearts now turn to our
brothers and sisters in
Africa
In places that have known too
much barrenness
Too much hunger
And too many late hours.

Our father has blessed this
world with abundance.
And yet too many fields are
parched,
Too many stomachs, empty.

Be with those who hunger.
Help us to join with your
people in peril
To share our food,
To share the knowledge of
cultivation,
To abate periods of dryness.
And to forsake the ways that
have created an unjust
world
Where God's bounty is for
some, but not others.

We look upon a world of
hunger, Lord,
But you have made us an
army of compassion.
Filled with the knowledge
That there is no place too
desolate
And no hour too late
For the love of God to
triumph.

Amen