

2018

Summons Prayer

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SUMMONS Prayer

God of the Universe,

these are uneasy times when brothers and
sisters everywhere
are struggling to escape want, war, carnage,
chaos, pain.

I carry the imprint of their struggles upon my
soul.

I hear the frightened voices of immigrants
and refugees
with nowhere to turn and few to give them
counsel.

I hear the desperation of families
shackled to systems hopelessly broken.

**And yes, I hear your Summons,
your call to attend to those in need.
I cannot turn a blind eye, a deaf ear.
The time is now.**

How I am to respond to your *Summons* is not
clear.

I can only trust that you will give me a sense
of direction and purpose,
a heart filled with compassion,
the strength to step up to the challenge,
and your companionship on the way! Amen!

*Committee for the Tenth Anniversary
The Postville, IA, Immigration Raid
May 12, 2008*

With profound gratitude to Mary Jo Leddy, who inspired
our use of the concept of a "Summons." "She describes
how the newcomer disrupts our lives and summons us
to a new sense of ourselves." *The Other Face of God*
(Orbis, 2011)