Summons Prayer
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)