

A PRAYER FOR FAMILIES AT THE USA-MEXICO BORDER

— Rev. Margaret Beckman,
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Castine, Maine

Spirit of Love, God of Many Names, Source of Life,

We gather, hearts heavy with grief for our neighbors at the border whose families are being torn apart.

We pray for the children and their parents.

We hold in our hearts the migrants and refugees and asylum seekers attempting to come to the United States to realize their hope of freedom from violence and fear.

May we not be swayed by false or confusing reports that seek to make injustice justice, that seek to make our neighbors into enemies of whom we ought to be afraid.

May we be in solidarity with these families who come to us seeking safety and compassion.

We pray for our elected officials and public servants who are speaking out in opposition to the cruel treatment of people who cross our border illegally,

that their resolve may be strengthened and their determination to end family separation and implement humane systems of treatment be rewarded with an end of the violence of incarcerating children and families and others.

Hold them in your loving embrace as they pursue justice and peace in the face of fear and mistrust.

Help them, spirit of grace, to lead not from a place of fear or arrogance or hatred, but from a place of justice, hope, and love.

Where children and families of all kinds have fled violence and become homeless,

may we find new ways to shelter the homeless,
to feed the hungry, to welcome the stranger;

and not to fall prey to a gospel of indifference and distrust.

May our heavy hearts be broken open this day.

May our actions be guided by our highest resolve to be people whose religion is Love and whose practice is Compassion.

Amen.