

Prayer of Confession

(From The United Methodist Church)

Creator God, you placed within each of us your divine flame. You tenderly breathed your Spirit into us with the command to love



one another. We have failed to honor your Spirit of love. Forgive us, O God. As children are torn from their families, call us back to the hope that you breathed into us at creation. Call us back to your spirit of radical welcome.

“Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free. The wretched refuse

*of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!”** Remind us, O God, that we are called to comfort the suffering. Remind us of the depth of love we spring from. Remind us of your light that shines in each of us. God, forgive us, And send us out with a spirit of boldness to set right the wrongs caused by our blindness to your divine love in all your children, on every side of every border we've created.

Amen.

* These words adorn our Statue of Liberty, a poem by Emma Lazarus, titled “The New Colossus.”