Uniting Church in Australia
ASSEMBLY

UnitingWorld
connecting communities for life

UnitingWorld is an agency of the Uniting Church in Australia

Rev Arliyanus Larosa
General Secretary
Gereja Kristen Indonesia (GKI)

14th May 2018

Dear Rev Larosa,

We were shocked to hear of the tragic bombings in Surabaya over the weekend, including the congregation of GKI Diponegroro.

We understand that a presbyter and several of your young members were injured.

We write to convey to you our deep sadness at this time of hurt and loss.

We pray for strength and courage for your leaders, for comfort and healing for your members, and that together, GKI remains a beacon of hope and peace in Indonesia.

We pray for peace for all the peoples of Indonesia as radicalism spreads and pure religion is distorted.

We want you to know the Uniting Church in Australia stands in solidarity with you and is praying for all Christian churches at this time.

We in the Uniting Church have learnt much from our Indonesian partners about how to live as a minority church in a multi-faith and multicultural society. We hope that rich legacy will continue to grow with God's blessings.

We look forward to a day when we can live in harmony together regardless of religion, race or gender.

Please find attached a prayer that we offer at this time of sorrow,

In peace and hope,

Stuart McMillan
President
Uniting Church in Australia

Dr Sureka Goringe
National Director
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Prayer for the Victims of Sunday Attack in Java

Written by Rev Dr Ji Zhang 张骥, Assembly Theologian in Residence and translated by Rev Dr Apwee Ting, for our Partner Church GKI and Indonesian Communion of Churches. This prayer is adapted from the prayer written by Homebush Uniting Church in response to the 2004 Asian Tsunami.

Almighty God, we come to you with our hearts full of thoughts.
But you are our refuge and strength,
the light in the darkness,
and so with confidence we offer our prayers to you.

Lord hear us
Lord hear our prayers.

We stand in solidarity with all good citizens in Java
pray for the churches of Catholic, Protestant, and Pentecostal traditions,
and we are confronted by the attacks on Christian worshipers.
We bring to you all the deceased,
and our trust in God's peace their souls finding rest.

Lord hear us
Lord hear our prayers.

We pray for those who grieve the loss of life,
for those who are traumatized during Sunday worship,
for those who are separated from the loved ones and friends,
we ask for your healing presence in their lives
and we commend to your love all the injured.

Lord hear us
Lord hear our prayers.

We give to your care all those
who have been involved in rescue operation.
Be with local churches and government forces
as they minister to the suffering communities.
Sustain them through this time of stress.

Lord hear us
Lord hear our prayers.

We commend to your care those are cleaning up,
for those burdened by unimaginable losses
and who have found themselves
like refugees in their own locality.
We ask that the emotional and spiritual support
already offered by local communities and beyond
will encourage and lift their spirits.

Lord hear us
Lord hear our prayers.

We pray for communities that have been devastated
– especially in East Java and West Java.
May your peace bring people together
to rebuild their lives and communities,
and bring them healing from all evil.

Lord hear us
Lord hear our prayers.

We pray for families and friends in Australia
who feel far away from the loved ones in Indonesia,
and those who had been through racial and religious attacks
- still trying to make sense of the past.
Comfort them across the physical and emotional distance.

Lord hear us
Lord hear our prayers.

We give thanks to God for the blessing in our lives,
especially the gifts of joy we so often take for granted
until they are in danger of being taken away from us
- the gift of family, friends, a home, our possessions.

Most of all we praise God for the gift of life itself.

Lord hear us
Lord hear our prayers.

God of light over darkness,
come into our hearts in the moment of now!
Come to transform our sorrow over the lost
into blessings to the living.
Come to reassure us your eternal truth
in the resurrection of Christ Jesus:
Life is always stronger than death.

Lord hear us
Lord hear our prayers.

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Doa buat para korban serangan pada hari Minggu di Jawa

Allah yang Maha Kuasa, kami datang kepada Mu dengan hati yang berat.
Engkau adalah pelindung and kekuatan kami,
Terang di tengah kegelapan
Maka dengan penuh kayakinan kami berdoa kepada Mu

Tuhan dengarlah kami
Tuhan dengarlah doa kami

Kami bersama dengan semua warga negara yang baik di Jawa
Berdoa buat gereja gereja Katolik, Protestan dan Pentakosta
ketika kami dihadapkan dengan serangan terhadap jemaat Kristen
Kami membawa kepada Mu mereka yang telah meninggal
Dan kepercayaan kami akan kedamaian Tuhan, bahwa jiwa mereka telah menemukan ketenangan.

Tuhan dengarlah kami
Tuhan dengarlah doa kami

Kami berdoa buat mereka yang berduka cita karena ada jiwa yang hilang
Untuk mereka yang menderita trauma selama beribadah Minggu
Untuk mereka yang terpisah dari orang yang dicintai dan dari teman teman
Kami meminta supaya kesembuhan daripada Mu hadir dalam hidup mereka
Dan kami serahkan mereka yang cedera kepada kasih Mu

Tuhan dengarlah kami
Tuhan dengarlah doa kami

Kami menyerahkan kedalam pemeliharaan Mu
Semua yang terlibat dalam usaha penyelamatan
Bersamalah dengan gereja gereja local dan aparat pemerintahan
Selama mereka mengurus komunitas yang sedang menderita
Kuatkanlah mereka dalam tugas berat yang sedang dihadapi

Tuhan dengarlah kami
Tuhan dengarlah doa kami

Kami menyerahkan kedalam pemeliharaan Mu semua yang terlibat dalam penyelesaian persoalan ini, mereka yang dibebani oleh rasa kehilangan yang tidak terbayangkan
Dan mereka yang menemukan diri mereka
seperti para pengungsi yang tinggal ditempat mereka sendiri
Kami berdoa semoga dukungan emosi dan spiritual
yang telah diberikan oleh komunitas setempat dan komunitas lainnya
dapat menguatkan dan mengangkat kembali semangat hidup mereka

Tuhan dengarlah kami
Tuhan dengarlah doa kami

Kami berdoa buat semua komunitas yang menderita
terutama mereka yang tinggal di Jawa Timur dan Jawa Barat
Kiranya damai sejahtera Mu membawa kesatuan
Untuk membangun kembali kehidupan mereka
dan melepaskan mereka dari segala yang jahat

Tuhan dengarlah kami
Tuhan dengarlah doa kami

Kami berdoa buat keluarga dan teman teman yang tinggal di Australia
Buat mereka yang tinggal jauh dari orang yang dikasihi di Indonesia
Untuk mereka yang pernah mengalami serangan ras dan agama
yang masih mencoba untuk mengerti kejadihan masa lalunya
Kuatkanlah mereka yang jauh secara fisik maupun emosi

Tuhan dengarlah kami
Tuhan dengarlah doa kami

Kami naikan syukur kepada Allah buat berkat dalam hidup kami
Terutama berkat suka cita yang sering tidak kami syukuri
Sampai ketika berkat tersebut akan diambil dari kami
misalnya keluarga, teman teman, rumah, harta benda
dan diatas semua itu, kami bersyukur buat berkat kehidupan itu sendiri.

Tuhan dengarlah kami
Tuhan dengarlah doa kami

Allah yang adalah Terang, yang mengatasi kegelapan
Datang kedalam hati kita sekarang ini
Datang untuk mengubah kesedihan akan rasa kehilangan menjadi rasa syukur akan kehidupan
Datang untuk memberikan keyakinan buat kami akan kebenaran abadi Mu
didalam kebangkitan Kristus Yesus
Kehidupan lebih kuat daripada kematian

Tuhan dengarlah kami
Tuhan dengarlah doa kami

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