

# Prayers from Chautauqua's Interfaith Family

## No. 14 • *From the Christian Tradition*

Here we are yet again,  
In our rage, our sorrow, our fear.

We are so angry we are tired.  
Between the virus and anti-Blackness,  
We are perpetually in grief.  
We don't know what the future holds.

We are a people of unclean lips.  
We live in and accept the Logic of Empire  
Its Impulse and Imagination course in our very flesh.  
Daily we manifest dehumanization, exclusion, and isolation.

And yet again we are here  
In faith, hope, and love.

We seek the wisdom and courage  
To sustain and deepen the Solidarity  
We see in the Tweets and in the streets.

May the Spirit of Revolutionary Love  
Be present among us,  
Fall fresh upon us,  
And breathe again on each of us.

Transform us Within  
So that Black Lives Matter in our hearts and minds.

Transform us Between  
So that Black Lives Matter in our relationships.

Transform us Among  
So that Black Lives Matter in our institutions and systems.

Transform us Around  
So that we may grow a culture where All Black Lives Matter.

May our work today  
Not only cultivate Beloved Community,  
But help to rebuild the Soul of the World.

Ase. Amīn.  
Blessed Be.  
Amen.

—**Michael-Ray Mathews**  
Chautauqua Chaplain • July 22–27, 2018  
Deputy Director, Faith in Action  
June 8, 2020