

## Litany: *Standing in Solidarity*

**Leader:** We come together wearing black as a symbol of solidarity to reaffirm that Black lives matter.

**Congregation:** Hands Up!

**Leader:** When we lift our hands, this too is symbolic in the Christian faith for we show reverence to the most high God by lifting our hands.

**Congregation:** Hands Up!

**Leader:** We surrender all when we lift our hands for there is a power beyond human power that we must call on for truly we believe that God is a God of mercy and justice.

**Congregation:** Hands Up!

**Leader:** We therefore lift our hands and we call out to the Lord :” *Hear my cry for mercy as I call to you for help, as I lift up my hands toward your Most Holy Place.*”

**Congregation:** Hands Up!

**Leader:** In first Timothy the word of God declares:“I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands.” So Lord, we lift our hands in humble submission to your will knowing that justice is truth in action and God is a just God and so justice will triumph!

**All:** Hands up, heads, bowed, knees bent, we honor and praise you for the message of this season still rings true and we rejoice this Advent Season that you are yet near, your power is everywhere, your grace, O Lord is sufficient and we ask that we yield to your will in all things and in all ways, for you are still Lord of Lords, and King of Kings and ruler over all!

**It would be great if a lay person or the pastor's designee if not the pastor would read this story first and then do the Litany:**

**There is a story in Exodus 17 that tells of a battle in which Israel was fighting. There were doubters in the congregation (isn't there always) So Moses declared... Is God here with us, or not?" So Moses took it upon himself and told his people tomorrow as we will fight I will worship and praise God by raising my hands during the battle. It is important to note here that God did not command Moses to do this; he did it of his own accord. He said, "I will lift my hands to God". The next day, as the battle went on, it turned out that when Moses would raise his hands, Israel would win, but when he lowered his hands they would lose. As the day wore on Moses' arms and hands got tired. So they got a stone and set it under him. He sat on the stone and Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one of them on each side, they remained raised that way until the sun went down, and as a result Israel won the battle.**