

Gun Violence Prayer

For “Stand Up Sunday,” January 31, 2016

Written by the Very Reverend J. Michael A. Wright, Grace Church Cathedral

O God of all people,
We know that you are as near as our next breath.
Wherever we go, you are already there.
Thank you for creating us in your image, and claiming us as your children.

O Lord, we confess that we have forgotten who we are; that each of us belongs to you.
We confess that we have forsaken your peaceable kingdom, and allowed gun violence
to shatter our communities.

Forgive us O God.
Remind us that your love is more powerful than any gun and that your spirit will sustain
us as nothing else can.
Let us desire, as you desire, forgiveness rather than revenge, reconciliation rather than
retribution.

Give us the courage to live not by the gun but by your Spirit.
Open our hearts to you so that we also may open them to each other.
Guide us on the path of peace.

All this we pray in the name of our wounded and reconciling Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.