Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We seem to be in a cycle of continued tragedy, loss, and pain in our community and world and at times it can be overwhelming.

Two young children gone and a family and community mourning.

May our prayers be with the Amish family and community and with the family of those also involved in this horrific accident.

We turn on the news to pain, suffering, anger and hatred.

Sometimes words are hard to find to express our sorrow and hurt by all that we view in this imperfect world but we are blessed with a grace filled poet who has these words to share with each of you.

Thank you Kathy Hawkins for giving us our faith to hold on to when life seems to swallow is up in saddens.

Pastor Bridget Sheely

10-02-2023

**On My Knees**

*By Kathy Hawkins*

As my knees drop this night to the cold bare floor

All I can think of is what could I do more

Two young children with faces beaming of life

Their breath ended quickly cutting hearts like a knife

Looters smashing windows and taking what isn’t theirs

Never considering the people it affects and the fear they bear

Killers running rampant on the streets big and small

Leaving families without loved ones to answer their calls

Mud slinging words by people all over this nation

Only leads to pain for a very long duration

Illness that takes over bodies once filled with vibrance

Not allowing it to win because of their defiance

Take away the clouds that cast over our days

And bring sunshine and warmth to break the haze

Giving hugs and unspoken words can at times fill the need

To help heal the soul and plant caring seeds

So on my knees I pray my Lord to hear

What can I do to help those I hold dear

The struggles of these difficult days has proven to be our test

Help us all remember who can provide our minds and hearts rest

With hands folded in prayer I ask the Lord to give us peace

Help all who struggle find your love that does not cease