

Litany in Memory of Dr. Paul Carlson

Paul Carlson Sunday

Can be read in unison, or by a single reader, or responsive reading.

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| I | Gracious God, who calls your people to go to the ends of the earth with the good news of Jesus, | I | So too has Paul Carlson's faithfulness given opportunity for your Spirit to burst forth in Congo, bringing new life and new hope in Jesus Christ. |
| II | Today we remember Paul Carlson who gave his life as a missionary in Congo, fifty years ago. | II | But the need is great, O God, in Congo and around the world. |
| I | A talented doctor with a promising career, | All | And so, we confess our indifference, and offer our comfort, that we too might answer your call to care for our neighbor. |
| II | He said yes when you called him to care for his neighbors in Africa. | | We confess our fear, and offer our safety, that we too might answer your call to stay with those who need your presence. |
| I | A compassionate healer, | | |
| II | He gave up his safety to stay with his patients as war surrounded the villages he served. | | We confess our selfishness, and offer our lives, that we too might answer your call to let your light shine through us in the darkness. |
| I | A faithful servant, | | |
| II | He gave comfort to his fellow prisoners, even as his life was taken from him. | I | Faithful God, you have called your people to go to the ends of the earth with the good news of Jesus. |
| I | Eternal God, we are reminded of the words of your Son, that there is no greater love than to lay down one's life for a friend. | II | Today, as we remember Paul Carlson, give us ears to hear your call. |
| II | Like the mustard seed, which is the smallest of seeds, yet grows to become the largest of garden plants, | All | Amen. |

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