God of compassion, we struggle to find hope faced with the anguish of your people in Congo and South Sudan.
Lives are poured away, the young see no future.

In our distress, O Lord, we turn to you who hear the cry of the poor; our help is in your Name.

Listen to your children, heal the brokenhearted, bind their wounds.

Open our eyes and our hearts to the light of your hope.
Open, too, the hearts of those who do violence.
Fill us with courage to speak out on the side of justice, in the name of peace.

**Amen** 

