

I Will NOT Be Silenced

“and if I perish, I perish.” ~Esther 4:16

By Carolyn Payne, Western North Carolina Social Action Coordinator, June, 2020

One: When your schemes and your structures threaten my brothers Fifteen amendment right...

Many: I will not be silenced — *“and if I perish, I perish.”*

One: When you place your foot on my brothers’ neck and take away his life...

Many: I will not be silenced — *“and if I perish, I perish.”*

One: When you shadow my brother’s steps and ambush their path

Many: I will not be silenced — *“and if I perish, I perish.”*

One: When you lock away our children and seal their fate...

Many: I will not be silenced — *“and if I perish, I perish.”*

One: When you recklessly pollute the air and taint the water, ...

Many: I will not be silenced — *“and if I perish, I perish”*

One: When your phobias paralyze hope unborn and demoralize love in others who see the world from a different point of view...

Many: I will not be silenced — *“and if I perish, I perish.”*

One: When your *freedoms* and *rights* are used as a weapon of intimidation to the freedom and rights of others...

Many: I will not be silenced — *“and if I perish, I perish”.*

One: When you deny the dignity of an honest day’s work with a living wage...

Many: I will not be silenced — *“and if I perish, I perish”.*

One: I will go to the kings, governments, financial institutions, councils, boards and administrations....

All: “and if I perish, I perish.”

“Women Called to Act in Love”

by Laurie Zelman, *Response* magazine May/June, 2020

One: Women called by God to serve. Women called to works of justice,

Many: **Called by God to act in love!**

One: In the company of sisters, Seeking strength in prayer and praise. *Faith* and *Hope* and *Love* in action,

Many: **Finding God in many ways.**

One: Grant us courage, send us vision, may we know God’s heart this day,

Many: **Share the tears that God is shedding and refuse to turn away.**

All: **Dwell in us, Holy Spirit! Bring us to the greatest needs! Cast out fear and mend division, show us where the promise leads.**

I Can Hear the Call of Mordecai

By Carolyn Payne, Western North Carolina Social Action Coordinator, June 2020

One: In cities, large, in townships small, the plains, the mountains, in sacred halls;

Many: **I can hear the call of Mordecai**

One: For those heroes, the first to respond, to those she—roes, who may go unsung;

Many: **I can see the call of Mordecai**

One: For those who for mercy plead, with —out-stretched arms, in urgent need;

Many: **I answer the call of Mordecai**

One: For those who don't know, and don't know to care, the good news of Jesus, — the gospel
I'll share.

All: **For surely, I was born for such a time as this. Amen!**