

A Litany of Assurance Christian tradition. Post-abortion

Person One: 0 God, I have been afraid. My world sometimes seems chaotic, and I sometimes feel all alone. I have faced difficult options, and I needed you.

Person Two: I join with other people of faith in believing that whatever decisions you have made or will make the caring support of your religious community, family, and friends should always be yours.

Person One: 0 God, I have been confused, and sometimes I still feel confused. It's hard to know what is right and what is wrong in difficult situations. Sometimes life seems so unfair.

Person Two: God says, know that you are my Beloved Daughter in whom I am well-pleased [Luke 3:22 edited]. If I your God am for you, who is against you? It is I your God who justifies, and my judgment is far more unfair -- in your favor! -- than all the unfairness of life. [Romans 8:31, 33 edited]

Person One: 0 Lord, I have been brought up to think certain things were true, to revere life, to work for good. I feel I have disappointed you, other people, and myself. I feel like such a failure.

Person Two: Who is to condemn? Only Christ Jesus who descended into hell and rose again on the third day, according to the Apostles' Creed, to demonstrate that all the hells we go through or put ourselves through, do not have the final word. There are no final words with God, only new words of assurance, grace, and hope.

Person One: 0 God, I feel I have sinned. I sometimes feel separated from you and your will for me in my life. Sometimes I just feel so bad.

Person Two: Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword, or abortion under any circumstances? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Christ who loved us. [Romans 8:35, 37 edited]

Together: We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. [Romans 8:38, 39 edited]

Blessing (Person Two may lay hands on the head of Person One.)

Person Two: Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace. [Luke 8:48]

Prepared by the Rev. Lindsay Louise Biddle, Presbyterian minister, Minneapolis, Minnesota Feel free to edit and use this as you deem appropriate.