

## To the Jewish Community of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

We know that the Jewish people throughout the centuries have borne the greatest discrimination, the worst persecution and the most barbaric atrocities of any people group. We are aware that much of this has been done by those who called themselves Christians, sometimes while calling upon the name of Jesus. While those of us standing with you here today deplore and condemn in the strongest terms and way those crimes perpetrated against Jewish people throughout history, we nonetheless ask for your forgiveness for all of the crimes against you which were perpetrated by those calling themselves Christian. These atrocities in no way reflect Jesus, Who Himself a Jew, embraced the Law and the Prophets. As His followers, we too affirm them and embrace them, and in that affirming and embracing we say to you and to the world that we will stand with the Jewish People as long as we have breath.

The concentration camps in Europe stand as silent sentinels to the past barbarity of the human race, not just Christians. Anti-Semitism knows no ethnic, creedal, or political bounds. But we repeat the words engraved and openly displayed at the Dachau Concentration Camp Memorial, "Never Again." By that we mean we are yours. You will never be attacked as a people while we who are Christians stand by and do nothing.

We covenant with you that while others have stood silent during your times of great sufferings, we, the Community of those who follow Jesus, will never be silent, never abandon you, and covenant to supply you quarter should any present or future events make that necessary. The number of those in the Church of Jesus Community increases your community.

Our prayer, as part of the Christian Community in Pittsburgh, is that you will always remember this commitment we make to you this First Day of May 2011.