

## Haiku Prayer

*By Hap Hansen*

For the subject, I have taken a few stanzas from my Haiku book, called Ameraiku and added some new ones. Beware!

Dallas, Istanbul  
Orlando, Nice, Baton Rouge.  
Scenes of tragedy.

Beware! All of us!  
These are not the Ides of March,  
as Shakespeare warned us.

This is violence  
of a changed society.  
No one is immune.

Foolishness persists  
in our overflowing land.  
Common sense has fled.

Created equal  
but treated differently  
both race and gender.

Discrimination.  
Diversity is displaced.  
Fairness is denied.

Either black or white.  
Comfortable in our skin.  
Malice should be gone.

Yellow, black or white.  
We have all persevered.  
Can we become one?

We are not alike!  
Celebrate the difference!  
Leave hatred behind.

Does this dream exist?  
Prejudices disappear?  
Only time will tell.

Here's a final Haiku prayer:  
May the light of peace,  
shine in all the world's shadows,  
for eternity.