

Benediction for August 20th, 2017

In a week rife with hatred, in Virginia, Spain,
& on our screens, we remember the words of Dr. King:

Returning hate for hate multiplies hate,
adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars.
Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that.
Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.
Hate multiplies hate, violence multiplies violence,
and toughness multiplies toughness
in a descending spiral of destruction.

—

Brothers and sisters, bearers of light and hope,
Those commanded to love neighbor and enemy alike,
To pray for the tormentor.
The world needs you to tell a different story.
Lament, but do not give in to despair.
Go forth to grieve and to heal,
To unite and to love.

Go in peace.