O God, we love this country, and because we love it, we pray for the courage to quarrel with it, as did the prophets of old, and as do the people of conscience today.

Give us the courage to quarrel with the idolaters who say: “My country, right or wrong,” instead of saying: “My country, when it is right; my country, to be made right whenever it is wrong.”

May we bring into this world a bit more truth, a bit more justice, and a bit more love than there would have been if we had not loved the world enough to quarrel with it—out of a vision of what it ought to be.

May our prayers and our deeds be pleasing to you,

O God, whose lover’s quarrel with the world is the history of humanity.

Blessed are You, Eternal our God: Your presence gives life to Zion and all Israel.