Easter Day

The Prayers of the People
(Adapted from Intercessions for the Christian People - Gail Ramshaw, editor)

During Lent, Holy Week and Easter the Holy Landers Ministry Network offers these Prayers of the People to pray for all people and especially for the people of our Holy Land served by the ministries of the American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem (AFEDJ) and Jerusalem Peacebuilders (JPB).

Deacon: In the power of the resurrection, let us pray to the Lord, saying: Lord, where there is doubt, let us sow faith.

For the whole bright earth, so lovingly created yet so compassionately redeemed, that we may speak again of the glory and majesty of God, let us pray to the Lord. 

Lord, where there is doubt, let us sow faith.

For all nations and peoples of the earth, to whom God shows no partiality, that all may be transformed by mercy to live together in hope. We especially lift up to you the peoples of our Holy Land, strengthening them to be beacons of that hope, reconciliation, and respect for differences, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, where there is doubt, let us sow faith.

For the holy church, whose life is hid with Christ in God, that in all its diversity witness may be made to one Lord, one faith, one baptism. In the Diocese of Jerusalem cycle of prayer we remember The Virgin Mary Episcopal Church in Irbid and All Saints Episcopal Church in Beirut and their AFEDJ partners, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, where there is doubt, let us sow faith.

For all in high places of authority, for whom Christ was put to death and was raised, that they may be led to govern with equity and justice, bringing life to those in the shadow of death, breaking down walls that divide, and warming the hearts of those filled with hatred, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, where there is doubt, let us sow faith.

For all who have been baptized and given the garments of light, that they, with the whole church, may be witnesses to the gospel in daily life. May we with them hold in our hearts the witness of our Holy Land, the root of our faith heritage, that brings the
gospel to life and whose stones cry out for peace and reconciliation in our time, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, where there is doubt, let us sow faith.*

For all captives, prisoners, and those condemned to die, with whom the Holy One shares suffering and abandonment, that they may find strength, freedom, and forgiveness, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, where there is doubt, let us sow faith.*

For all who suffer in mind, body, or soul, for whom Christ is risen with healing in his glorious wings, that they may be comforted. We pray for all who have commended themselves to us for healing [especially for N.]. We also lift up East Jerusalem’s Princess Basma Center that serves children and young adults with autism, cerebral palsy, deafness, blindness and other congenital complications. May this Diocese of Jerusalem Center continue to be a voice of advocacy for the rights of peoples with disabilities in Israel and Palestine, no matter what their religious tradition or ethnicity, and may we give thanks for all of their *AFEDJ* partners, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, where there is doubt, let us sow faith.*

For all the brave men and women working and living in harm’s way, that they be protected and strengthened. May the young people who are working together with *Jerusalem Peacebuilders* find their voices as they listen to each other’s stories and find their way to transforming our world. May we with them pray for the peace of Jerusalem and all of the Holy Land, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, where there is doubt, let us sow faith.*

For all who have died, [especially N.], and for all who grieve, that in Christ who triumphs over death they may find light perpetual and blessed assurance, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, where there is doubt, let us sow faith.*

For all gathered in this assembly, that we, like Mary and Peter and John, may see the tomb empty, and joyfully believing, walk in newness of life, let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, where there is doubt, let us sow faith.*

Celebrant: Rejoicing in the risen presence of our Lord, we commend all for whom we pray and ourselves to Christ, to whom we give laud and praise now and forever. 

*Amen.*