

## First Sunday in Lent

### The Prayers of the People

(Adapted from *Intercessions for the Christian People* - Gail Ramshaw, editor)  
**During Lent 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:* Our great God has formed the dust of our being in the midst of the waters of creation. Let us adore the Righteous One, saying: O God, feed us with mercy: where there is hatred, let us sow love.

*Intercessor:* For the Tree of Golgotha, our true tree of life, by whose just fruit we live, the church worships you, O God. We pray for churches that sustain life everywhere, for parishes in the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, for parishes around our country, for parishes throughout the Diocese of Jerusalem and for their *AFEDJ* partners, and today for St. Andrew's Church, Ramallah, and Good Shepherd Church, Rafidia. May your people ever praise and serve you and all the world's people. O God, feed us with mercy:

***Where there is hatred, let us sow love.***

O God of the seas and rains, we praise you for watering and sustaining all things living. We bless you for the waters flowing from Jesus' pierced side. Give to all candidates of baptism, and to all the baptized, the sure hope of your grace. O God, feed us with mercy:

***Where there is hatred, let us sow love.***

Send us to the nations where there is a famine of the word; show us those who await the bread of life; and confront us with those who suffer in hunger and with those who live in the most volatile places on earth. May our abundance supply their need. We particularly ask your blessings on the Diocese of Jerusalem's education and healthcare ministries that often are the only providers for the poor, disabled and vulnerable people of the region. We give thanks for their *AFEDJ* partners who help support these ministries. O God, feed us with mercy:

***Where there is hatred, let us sow love.***

Lord and judge of all, confirm what is good and just in the hearts of those who rule the nations in our world, in our native land and in our Holy Land. Make all in authority to govern in justice the peoples whom you have made, especially those in

war torn and terror filled locations. May the Israeli, Palestinian, and American youth and adults who prepare through *Jerusalem Peacebuilders* become future leaders for peace in the global community. Guide them and us all to join the quest for peace. O God, feed us with mercy:

***Where there is hatred, let us sow love.***

For all who desire wisdom, for all who need hands to bear them up, for the naked and the outcast, for the sick and the dying, for all those who have commended themselves to us for any need, [*especially N.*]. For all in need of your gift of abundant health throughout our world, particularly the Diocese of Jerusalem institutions of St. Luke's Hospital in Nablus, Palestine, and Al Ahli Hospital in Gaza City, Gaza, who care for all regardless of religious, ethnic, or economic background, and for their *AFEDJ* partners who help support these ministries, we pray for your mercy:

***Where there is hatred, let us sow love.***

For all who need protection as they work in harm's way, [*especially N.*], grant them a safe haven and give them strength as they serve for the greater good of humankind. Help us along with *Jerusalem Peacebuilders*' work in the Middle East to promote peace instead of violence, love not hate, freedom over closure, and leadership in the midst of fear, we pray for your mercy:

***Where there is hatred, let us sow love.***

For all who have died, [*especially N.*], that they be granted an entrance into the land of light and joy, we pray for your mercy:

***Where there is hatred, let us sow love.***

*Celebrant:* For all the holy people before us who served you as their only wisdom amid life's temptations, we give you thanks, O God. Give your holy angels charge over us, and bring us who live in the wilderness of time from the waters of baptism into the garden of your great love, where we will be no longer in hunger, but filled with your life forever, through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***