

Fourth 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: God has consecrated us in baptism's gracious waters to be a holy people. That we may be ever anointed with gladness, let us turn to our God in prayer, saying: God of all gladness, where there is sadness, let us sow joy.

Intercessor: We pray for the church, for an end to division and indignation, for all the people washed and sent by Christ, and for a renewal of God's fulfilling Spirit. We pray for your light to brighten the work of all churches, particularly the work of the churches of the Diocese of Jerusalem and their *AFEDJ* partners, remembering Holy Family Church in Reineh and Emmanuel Church in Ramleh, God of all gladness,
where there is sadness, let us sow joy.

We pray for all who beg for life, for all baptismal candidates awaiting the pool of grace, and for hearts of devout faith: God of all gladness,
where there is sadness, let us sow joy.

We pray for all who are called to govern in justice and peace, for an end to all works of darkness, for all the peoples created in God's image, and for a Spirit of wisdom and mercy to rule the mighty. We pray for the ongoing work of *Jerusalem Peacebuilders* with Armenian youth as they develop relationships with Arab and Jewish youth all engaged in leadership programs for peace: God of all gladness,
where there is sadness, let us sow joy.

We pray for all condemned to die, for all victims of illegal arrest and oppression, for all who are tortured, for their families, for the work of the Diocese of Jerusalem and their *AFEDJ* partners to carry out their mission as a moderating presence in a war-torn region, and for all who work for liberation: God of all gladness,
where there is sadness, let us sow joy.

We pray for all the forgotten and abandoned, for all who are in anguish, for the guilt-ridden, for all in need of the Spirit, for the sick and all who have commended

themselves to us for any need [especially *N.*]; for the work of the Diocese of Jerusalem's Holy Land Institute for the Deaf in Salt, Jordan, as they enable deaf and deaf-blind children to participate meaningfully in their families and communities and for their *AFEDJ* partners who help support them; for the grieving, and the dying, that they all may be uplifted: God of all gladness, ***where there is sadness, let us sow joy.***

For all brothers and sisters, mothers and fathers, spouses and families, partners, friends and companions, that there may be love and mutual reverence. For the *Jerusalem Peacebuilders'* new high school program at the Dar Al-Maarefa School, located outside the Separation Barrier and inside the Jerusalem Municipal boundary, as it reaches disadvantaged youth preparing them for leadership and peacemaking: God of all gladness, ***where there is sadness, let us sow joy.***

We pray for all men and women who serve in harm's way, seeking freedom and peace, [especially *N.*], that they are protected by your loving care: God of all gladness, ***where there is sadness, let us sow joy.***

We pray for all who have gone before us to join you in your kingdom [especially *N.*] and all the peoples of the Middle East whose lives have been stripped away in terror, that they may rest with you in eternal light: God of all gladness, ***where there is sadness, let us sow joy.***

Celebrant: We praise you, God of our hope, for all the children of light who have gone before us and now stand in your radiant countenance. Give us the light of Christ, that we may leap up in our darkness and rise from death at the last, into the life of gladness in Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

