

Second 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: Let us come before God in this Lententide, praising and blessing and adoring our everliving God, saying: In your glorious mercy, Lord, where there is darkness, let us sow light.

Intercessor: O God, who spoke through the prophets and who lives in the only begotten one, show to your church all things. Make us hear your purpose and receive your grace; confirm in your truth all the baptized, especially our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, our bishops Ian and Laura, Archbishop Suheil Dawani of the Diocese of Jerusalem and the *AFEDJ* partners who support ministries throughout the Diocese, all bishops and clergy, theologians and teachers, mystics and martyrs. Strengthen all of your churches to witness in your love, especially remembering Holy Land churches of St. Peter's Church in Birzeit and St. Phillip Church in Nablus. In your glorious mercy:

Lord, where there is darkness, let us sow light.

Lord of promise and deliverance, we thank you for birthing us in the waters of baptism and for drowning our death in your unending life. We beg that your love well up within us, that our whole lives may worship you and our hearts be changed to love one another. Support the young people learning through *Jerusalem Peacebuilders* and *Kids4Peace* to light candles of new leadership for tomorrow, forming life-long friendships across their differences. In your glorious mercy:

Lord, where there is darkness, let us sow light.

God of the people of Israel, Sovereign of every nation, grant your vision of mercy and justice to all who rule in the earth. Prosper the labors of those seeking peace. Guide the work of the Diocese of Jerusalem's schools that are educating the next generation of leaders in our Holy Land with strong Christian ethics and the tools to achieve lasting peace. Continue to guide the hearts of their *AFEDJ* partners in ministry as they support and remember the needs of these children. Assist all who work throughout the world for reconciliation in the streets and for reformation in prisons. In your glorious mercy:

Lord, where there is darkness, let us sow light.

O Holy One with the pierced limbs and side, bind us to all those who suffer. Keep us mindful of all innocent victims, all the oppressed, all the dying, all who live in our Holy Land who are divided by walls and restricted to move about freely.

Reveal to us those who are despised, the outcast, the alien, the forlorn. Look upon the sick and all who have commended themselves to us for any need, [especially *N.*]. Summon us to restlessness until all who suffer find rest from their sorrow. In your glorious mercy:

Lord, where there is darkness, let us sow light.

O God, the Protector of all your children, we offer into your care all who are in harm's way, [especially *N.*], that they be protected and strengthened wherever they are. Continue to guide the work of *Jerusalem Peacebuilders* in Jerusalem-area high schools through their Israeli and Palestinian partnerships, offering teen leaders the skills, relationships and support needed to advance peace. In your glorious mercy:

Lord, where there is darkness, let us sow light.

O God, the Comforter of all who grieve and mourn, we remember all who have died, [especially *N.*], that they be granted an entrance into the land of light and joy. In your glorious mercy:

Lord, where there is darkness, let us sow light.

Celebrant: God of Abraham and Sarah, the great *I AM*, we give you thanks for the signs of your radiant presence in the faith of our forebears. Bless us with awe to receive their testimony and your yearning for peace. Give the families and children of the Holy Land a reason to hope, letting them know they are not forgotten. Transfigure us by the gift of faith for our life's journey, until we behold face to face your glorious beauty, through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***