

The Easter Vigil

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: On this holy night of resurrection and joy, let us pray for the church and the world, saying: Lord, in your mercy, where there is darkness, let us sow light.

Intercessor: O God, we give thanks for the goodness of creation, for the victory of resurrection, and for the grace of redemption. We praise you for leading us from darkness into light, and for bringing us through the waters of death into new life in you. Lord, in your mercy,
where there is darkness, let us sow light.

That the church throughout our world and particularly churches in the Diocese of Jerusalem and their *AFEDJ* partners, tonight for Savior Church in Zarka and St. John the Baptist Church in Husun, all celebrating the resurrection with joy, may bring the light of Christ into the world: Lord, in your mercy,
where there is darkness, let us sow light.

That the newly baptized, buried and raised with Christ, may grow in trust and hope: Lord, in your mercy,
where there is darkness, let us sow light.

That our community, renewed this night through word and sacrament, may care for one another in love that surpasses understanding: Lord, in your mercy,
where there is darkness, let us sow light.

That the people of the world, remembering the source of creation, may care for the waters of the earth and for all living things and recall that we are all connected to the One who created us all: Lord, in your mercy.
where there is darkness, let us sow light.

That the leaders of nations, knowing their power, may bring peace and justice to the world. We give thanks for the work of *Jerusalem Peacebuilders* that leads and

guides young people to be leaders of peace through courage, using their voices to change the world: Lord, in your mercy,
where there is darkness, let us sow light.

That all who have commended themselves to us for any need, [*especially N.*], and that all who suffer, recalling the mystery of Christ crucified and risen, may be comforted. We especially remember the children served at Theodor Schneller School of Amman in Jordan founded by 19th century Germans to house Christian orphans and today struggles to serve orphans, refugees, and children from at-risk homes, regardless of their religious tradition. We give thanks for the Diocese of Jerusalem and its *AFEDJ* partners who support these ministries: Lord, in your mercy,
where there is darkness, let us sow light.

That all who serve in harm's way, [*especially N.*], may serve with compassion, moral strength and a sense of justice. : Lord, in your mercy,
where there is darkness, let us sow light.

In thanksgiving for the saints and martyrs, for the witnesses of the resurrection, for Christians who have sacrificed their lives in our Holy Land, and for all who have passed over from the darkness of death into the glorious light of Christ [*especially N.*]: Lord, in your mercy,
where there is darkness, let us sow light.

Celebrant: In joy and faith and hope, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray to the mercy of God, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. ***Amen.***