

*A prayer of Archbishop Hosam Naoum of Jerusalem*

O God of all justice and peace, we cry out to you in the midst of the pain and trauma of violence and fear which prevails in the Holy Land. Be with those who need you in these days of suffering; we pray for people of all faiths – Jews, Muslims and Christians and for all people of the land. While we pray to you, O Lord, for an end to violence and the establishment of peace, we also call for you to bring justice and equity to the peoples. Guide us into your kingdom where all people are treated with dignity and honour as your children – for to all of us you are our Heavenly Father.

In Jesus' name we pray: **Amen**

*Sing*

*The kingdom of God is justice and peace,  
and joy in the Holy Spirit  
Come Lord and open in us the gates of your Kingdom.*

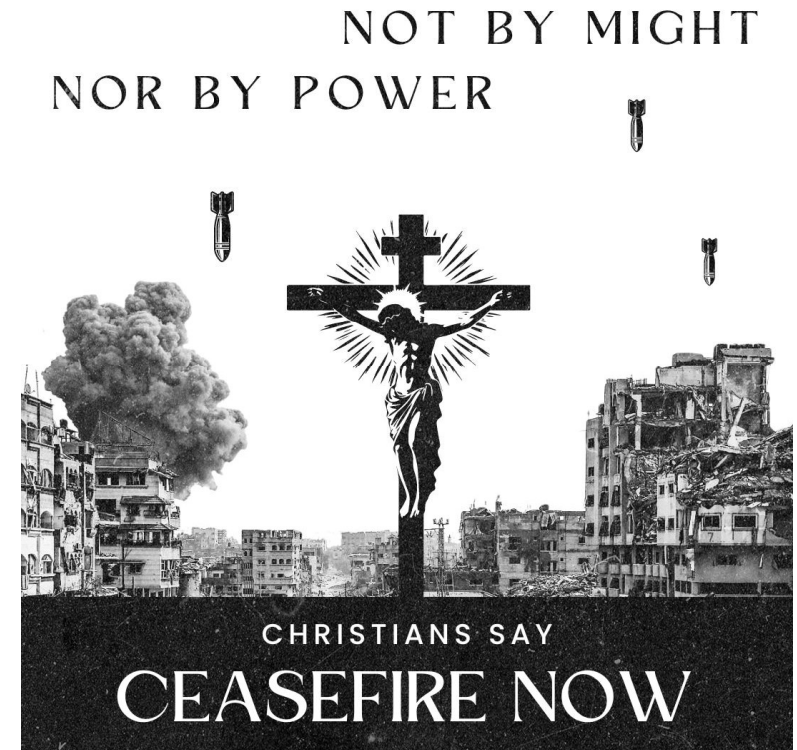
*Blessing*

God, creator of all things and of all people, bless us as we seek peace. **Amen**

Christ, who walked the earth of that Holy Land, march with us today. **Amen**

The Holy Spirit, who strengthens and inspires, go before us.  
**Amen**

And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always. **Amen**



Christian Bloc – 9<sup>th</sup> March  
**Prayers for Palestine**

Grace, mercy and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Come, let us sing to the Lord; Let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. **Amen**

*Sing*

*Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name  
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.*

## *God's Word*

A reading from the Gospel of John

'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

'I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.' Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, 'Lord, how is it that you will reveal yourself to us, and not to the world?' Jesus answered him, 'Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

'I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

Holy wisdom, Holy word

**Thanks be to God**

## *Sing*

*O Lord hear my prayer,  
O Lord hear my prayer,  
when I call, answer me*

*O Lord hear my prayer,  
O Lord hear my prayer,  
come and listen to me*

## *Prayers from Palestinian Christians*

### *In response to the Flour Massacre*

Lord Christ, you tell us that you are the Bread of Life. We come before you shocked, disgusted and lost. We plead that you provide the people of Gaza their daily bread while so many are starving. Lord, intervene and stop these atrocities which kill people even as they wait for aid. Provide aid to our oppressors who are sick spiritually, morally and politically.

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

God of Mary, Martha and Hannah, we are grateful for the leadership and resistance of Palestinian women, a tradition that spans across centuries. We pray for all Palestinian women who are uniquely oppressed because of their ethnicity and gender. We pray especially for the women in Gaza who are victims of colonialism including sexual violence.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**