

All are warmly invited to join this faith community in prayers for healing of this world each week. Our pattern of prayer leads us to pause; to rejoice; to give thanks; to request God's intervention in particular areas of concern; to conclude with acknowledgement of God's promises love and blessing. Through 'Open prayer' we are invited into shared or personal contemplation of those things that speak to our hearts of need of prayer

THURSDAY PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD 10th October 2024



PAUSE

**Like a mountain stream
Exuberant in it's flow
You carry us
Into the river of your love,
And transport us
Gloriously, effortlessly
To the ocean of your grace.**

REJOICE and give thanks

Psalm 148: 1-4

**Praise the Lord from the heavens;
Praise him in the heights above.
Praise him all his angels; praise him, all his heavenly hosts.
Praise him sun and moon;
Praise him all you shining stars.
Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the skies.**

We thank you Lord for the work of Mosaic in the Middle East bringing comfort and material help to those displaced by war and needing food, medical supplies, and psychological support.

The Lord your God . . . is always with you. He celebrates and sings because of you, and he will refresh your life with his love. Zephaniah 3:17

OPEN PRAYER

ASK

Father, at a time when there is conflict and sorrow in many places in the world, would You raise up peacemakers and healers of hurts. We pray Lord for Leaders who will speak truth to power and peace to violence. We pray for people who are suffering as a result of war in their country or in

neighbouring countries. Lord, for the explosive situation in the Middle East, and all countries concerned, we call out to you, praying for an end to the reciprocal violence destroying the lives so many people. We pray for an end to this destructive war. We pray for the work of Mosaic Middle East and its partner DSPR providing aid in Gaza.

Join Us in Prayer

As we look to the future, we invite you to join us in prayer. Let us lift up the people of the Middle East, asking for God's mercy and grace to bring an end to the violence. Below are some of the prayer requests shared with us by partners across the region over the last week:

1. **Pray for the breaking down of barriers in delivering emergency aid:** Our partners (and many others) have trucks of emergency supplies, including vital medicines, which are facing delays in reaching those most in need. Pray for a breakthrough so that these supplies can bring relief to those suffering.
2. **Pray for protection:** For the safety of civilians, especially those taking refuge in churches and shelters. May God's hand protect the vulnerable, the displaced, and the wounded. Pray also for psychological and spiritual protection for those working in unimaginably challenging circumstances, many of whom are continuing to work despite grieving the loss of friends and family.
3. **Pray against fear:** Many communities across the region are living in fear of immediate danger. There are also those who fear how the violence will continue to spread, especially when experiences of recent conflict remain in recent memory.
4. **Pray for those victims whose stories do not reach the eyes of the world:** For example, our partners are supporting 115 families trapped in Palestinian refugee camps in Jordan who have been unable to return home since last October.
5. **Pray for the Christians across the Middle East seeking to be salt and light in their communities:** in the words of one of our partners: "We work on the model of Jesus - being the light in the middle of darkness. As Christians, we started here, we continue here, we continue to be the salt. Our impact is much bigger than our size."

The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Psalm 34.18

OPEN PRAYER

Lord, in this Season of Creation, we grieve for our burnt and flooded earth, and pray especially for those still dealing with the aftermath of the huge floods in Central Europe and East Asia. And we remember those who have been affected by severe floods on Nepal, and by the massive flooding from Florida up to North Carolina. We pray for them as they again

prepare for yet another tornado, Milton. May there be support for all those destitute. Lead all nations to greater awareness of the need for preventative measures.

We pray Lord for the youth of our country Australia who are going down paths of crime and anti-social behaviour. We ask for families in trouble where there may be alcohol addiction and violence, and we pray for those caught up in mental illness, gender abuse or poverty. We pray for effective government programs and resources. Especially we pray for the success of programs developed to protect young children from social media.

I am he, I am he who will sustain you, I have made you and I will carry you. I will sustain you and I will rescue you. *Isaiah 46: 4*

OPEN PRAYER

YIELD

God of wholeness, God of Grace to you we bring our thanks and praise.

To a world that searches you are a lamp that shines,

To a world that is hungry you are food that sustains,

To a world that suffers you are hope of release,

To a world that's broken you are one who restores,

To a world full of hate, you are love that forgives,

To a world that denies, you are truth that endures.

To you we bring our thanks and praise, God of wholeness, God of Grace. (John Birch)

BLESSING

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may abound in hope.

Amen