

A Grace Note from the Rector
October 12, 2023

Dear Ones,

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you. Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers." For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, "Peace be within you." For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good (Psalm 122:6-9).

With the eyes of the world on the Middle East, I want to share with you a statement from The Rev. C.K. Robertson, PhD, Canon to the Presiding Bishop for Ministry Beyond The Episcopal Church.

"We offer our prayers and support during this time of violence in Israel and Palestine. In Luke 19:41, we are reminded 'That when Jesus drew near and saw the city, he wept over it.' Many still weep.

We pray for those who have been killed, injured, are searching for loved ones, and are struggling with grief and fear. The Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem has consistently advocated for peace and justice, teaching us all what it means to walk in the way of love, to which Jesus points.

We are praying for Israelis and Palestinians.

We give thanks for the dedicated staff at al-Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza, part of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, and for all who are offering medical care in the region. We pray for their strength and safety.

Please join us in praying that there is a de-escalation and that the root causes of violence and oppression may be confronted and challenged so that a new understanding of peace prevails."

For more details, read this statement from Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP), of which The Episcopal Church is a founding member: <https://cmep.org/octhamasisraelwar/>

A NEW TREE

On Sunday, at the end of the morning service, we will gather on the lawn to bless a Silver Beech tree in honor of Fr. Charlie Mason and his years of care for God's creation.

BIBLE STUDY

Our Bible Study on the Gospel of Mark will begin on Tuesday, October 17, beginning with a simple supper in the Parish Hall at 6:30, followed by Bible Study at 7pm.

HALLOWE'EN CANDY

Gathering Grace is collecting Hallowe'en candy to be distributed on the last Sunday of October. A box will be placed in the parish hall for your candy donations. Thank you!

A BETTER WAY – OCTOBER NEEDS

Athletic socks for women, teens and children. Over the last two weeks 6 families have been provided housing. Currently there are 12 adults and 15 children residing at A Better Way facility in Muncie.

CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES ~ ONGOING NEEDS

Food Pantry: Canned fruit, meats, and soup, crackers, cereal, pasta & pasta sauce, mac & cheese. **Personal Care Items:** Bar soap, shampoo, toothpaste, dish soap, laundry detergent, toilet paper, lg/med diapers, towels, washcloths, blankets.

GRACE VILLAGE 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Saturday, November 4th, 6-9pm

First Presbyterian Church, Fellowship Hall

1400 W Riverside Avenue, Muncie

\$40 tickets in advance

see Fr. Paul for tickets

I leave you this week with two prayers from the Book of Common Prayer (p. 815) to hold in your hearts.


3. For the Human Family

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

4. For Peace

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

God bless you in these days,



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