

Prayers from the Metropolitan Chicago Synod Working Group on the Middle East 2026

Petitions

God of mercy, bring sustenance and restoration to all those suffering in Gaza and the West Bank.

God of love, empower your people to overcome division and hatred and to strive together toward lasting peace in your Holy Land.

God of justice, guide political leaders in all nations and especially in the United States, Israel, and the Occupied Palestinian Territories to choose honesty over falsehood, understanding over prejudice, and reconciliation over armed destruction and death.

God of love, show us how we can love and care for our neighbors as ourselves.

God of understanding, help us to use our talents and energy to heal conflicts in our families, communities, and country.

God of mercy, bring care, food, and safety to all those suffering in Gaza, the West Bank, and Israel.

God of justice, guide political leaders in all nations and especially in the United States, Palestine, and Israel, to choose honesty over falsehood, understanding over prejudice, and reconciliation over armed destruction and death.

God of peace, we pray for pray for Palestinians and Israelis, Jews, Christians and Muslims, and all who work to create a future of justice, equality, reconciliation, and peace for all, including our neighbors in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land.

Pastor Leslie Weber's adaptation of Psalm 31, a psalm of prayer and praise for deliverance from enemies

O Lord, in you we seek refuge because of the hostile environment in which the Palestinian people, and all who seek peace in the Middle East, and we ourselves are now living.

In your righteousness deliver our Palestinian sisters and brothers, their Israeli allies, and all who work for peace.

Be a rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save the Palestinian people.

Be gracious to us, O Lord, for we are in distress about what is going on in the Middle East, about how to help, about our own nation's role in contributing to the bloodshed, chaos, and confusion there.

The Palestinian people are the scorn of their adversaries—and, in fact, of many people in our own country." Many scheme together against them and plot to take their lives by denying them essentials—food, shelter, health care, education, peace—that they need to exist as human beings.

...we trust in you, O Lord; we say, 'You are our God.' Our times are in your hand. Help us believe that even now you are at work in ways we cannot see

Let your face shine on the people of Palestine; save them in your steadfast love.

O how abundant is your goodness that you have laid up for those who fear you. In the shelter of your presence you hide them from human plots.

Be strong and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord." Amen.

Litany

God of mercy and compassion, of grace and reconciliation, pour out your power upon all your children in the Middle East: Jews, Muslims and Christians, Palestinians and Israelis. Let hatred be turned into love, fear to trust, despair to hope, oppression to freedom, occupation to liberation.

Lord, hear our prayer.

God of justice, Help us to break the chains of hatred masked as faith and to dismantle ideologies that bless injustice.

Lord, hear our prayer.

God of justice, Stir in us a holy unrest that refuses to accept oppression as destiny and grant your protection to the people of Palestine and Israel. Lord, hear our prayer

God of justice, Guide political leaders here in this country and in the Middle East and elsewhere to seek alternatives to military force and to care for all the peoples suffering in war.

Lord, hear our prayer

God of justice, Bless us with enough foolishness to believe that we can make a difference in the world, so that we can do what others claim cannot be done, to bring justice and kindness to all.

Lord, hear our prayer.

God of justice, Fill us with a love that seeks justice, a faith that demands peace, and a hope that overcomes fear.

Lord, hear our prayer **Amen.**

Find more WORSHIP RESOURCES

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Lk2IEjmPwknt8EGSTD38FnN-ZFzrvY3QV3vaiPITCDU/edit?tab=t.yjn4mt33su25#heading=h.nympnwviz5pl>



**Metropolitan Chicago
Synod Working Group
on the Middle East**