



PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE OF GAZA IN THE TIME OF CORONAVIRUS

God of peace, whose beloved Son was born not far to the East in Bethlehem, we pray for the people of Gaza that they may be assured of your unfailing love in the midst of these uncertain and perilous times.

Grant them freedom from fear and give them hope for a future safe from harm and disease. In the midst of their sorrow and worry, shelter them from despair.

For all who are fearful for the safety of their loved ones as the pandemic threats to overwhelm them, we pray that they find peace.

For all who are sick, we pray they find healing.

For all who have died, we pray they find rest. For all who grieve, we pray they find comfort.

For all doctors, nurses, and other health workers who share their skills unselfishly, we pray that you keep them under your mercy and give them strength as they care for others.

For leaders on all sides, we pray for a renewed will to lay down arms, for the strength to put the grievances and wrongs suffered by their people to rest, and for the conviction to embrace a path of reconciliation and peace that preserves the rights and dignity of all of your children.

God of justice, help us to remember there is no border that can separate us from your great love and protection, no stone that can sound the well of your deep mercy.

Bless and protect our sisters and brothers in Gaza, especially your servants at Ahli Arab Hospital whose loving and tender care for all of their neighbors reveals the face of Christ.

With earnest hope that the threat of a widespread pandemic will pass by your children in Gaza, we ask all this in the name of your Son, Jesus. Amen.

– *American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem*