

## **World Week for Peace in Palestine and Israel 2025**

*Ecumenical liturgy for 20-26 September 2025*

**Theme: “We must give account.”**

*“And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.” – Hebrews 4:13*

### **Invitation to Prayer**

L: In name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,  
our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

Grace and peace from God, He who justifies the wicked and he who condemns the righteous are both alike an abomination to the Lord.” Proverbs 17:15

♪ **I want to walk as a child of the light**

**Sung by Chris Brunelle**

### **Greetings**

#### **Prayer for Conscience**

Prayers of the Faithful

For conscience rights and liberty; that all people of goodwill, may work together against the increasing threats to these fundamental rights.

We pray to the Lord.

For our lawmakers, that they may have the wisdom and courage to uphold conscience rights and protect justice to all people from being forced to violate their moral and religious convictions.

We pray to the Lord.

For those called to heal and cure the sick and suffering; that they may be free, safe and able to follow their faith, while fulfilling their professional duties.

We pray to the Lord.

For all churches, agencies, employers, healthcare providers, and individuals; that they may be free from government pressures that would compel them to compromise their beliefs.

We pray to the Lord.

Father, we praise you and thank you for your most precious gifts of human life and human freedom. Touch the hearts of our lawmakers with the wisdom and courage to uphold conscience to human rights and freedoms for all. Protect all people from being forced to violate their moral and religious convictions.

In your goodness, guard our freedom to live out our faith and to follow you in all that we do. Give us strength to be bold and joyful witnesses.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

Amen

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♪ **Song**

### **Scripture Readings: Old Testament, Hebrews 11-13**

#### **The Word Discovers Our Condition**

*11 Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience. 12 For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. 13 And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.*

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

♪ **Alleluia**

### **Gospel Reading: John 8: 31-38**

#### ***The Truth Will Set You Free***

*31 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." 33 They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"*

34 Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave[b] to sin. 35 The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. 36 So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. 37 I know that you are offspring of Abraham; yet you seek to kill me because my word finds no place in you. 38 I speak of what I have seen with my Father, and you do what you have heard from your father."

♪ Alleluia

### Homily: Reflection

♪ Song

### Prayers of Intercessions:

ارحمنا، يا رب. نعم، يا رب، لا يأتينا الخلاص من غيرك، لا من الشرق ولا من الغرب، ولا من الشمال (Arabic) ولا من الجنوب. أنت المخلص الوحيد. في يدك روح كل حي، في يدك كل قوي على هذه الأرض، وكل ظالم مستبد، أعماه السلطان وأعمته الدماء. أنت القوي الذي تُنزلهم عن الكراسي، يا رب، وتعطي الراحة لغزة ولكل الأرض. "الله هو الديان، يصنع هذا ويرفع ذلك". أنت الديان، ستخط كبرياءهم، وترفع المظلومين. جميعاً. لن يبقى ظالم لا يرى عقابه. سيرى الظالمون ما هو عدل وصلاح، فيرون شرهم، ويغيبون. ارحمنا، يا رب.

### (French) Words of Patriarch Emeritus Michel Sabbah:

Seigneur, prends pitié. Seigneur, la situation devient toujours pire à Gaza. Oui, beaucoup de condamnation orale, même de groupes d'Etats, mais les faits restent ce qu'ils sont: à Gaza, mort et transfert, et morts de faim... Seigneur, aie pitié des petits. Amen.

يا رب، في يوم مجيئك. وجئت. مع العدل والسلام والحق. وكثيرون رأوا وقبلوا وصارت حياتهم في العدل والسلام والحق. لكن كثيرين أيضاً ظلوا بعيدين، وسلخوا طرماً عكسية، ابتداء بأرضك، هنا، ومنها اليوم غزة ومأساتها. جئت، يا رب. وجاء معك العدل والسلام والحق. اجعل أرضك ترى وتستقبل العدل والسلام والحق، ولتكن حياتها كذلك، فتخرج من ظلمات الشر. ارحمنا، يا رب.

### (English) By Mayada Tarazi

Lord, the world may turn its face, but you do not.

You hear the cries of mothers searching for their children beneath rubble.

You see the fear in the eyes of youth who have known nothing but siege and destruction.

You feel the weight of our mourning, the longing for dignity, safety, and freedom.

♪ The Lord's Prayer (in Arameic)

[Video](#) produced by Samil Wakileh and sound recording by John Handal.

### Benediction/Sending Forth

♪ **Closing Hymn (chosen by united methodist pilgrims)**

["Let There Be Peace On Earth"](#) – Sung by Vince Gill

Written by Jill Jackson Miller (1913-1995) American singer, actress

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