

## Prayers of the People for December 10, 2017

### ADVENT 2: PEACE

#### **The church**

Shepherd God, we ask you to lead and feed all of us who make up your church throughout the world. Help us to listen to your good news and to change direction where necessary. As we wait for you may we learn to be at peace with each other. We ask that our leaders, Bishop Logan and Moderator Jordan Cantwell, be strengthened to lead us in doing your will. In our cycles of prayer we ask that the people of St. Philip-by-the-Sea in Lantzville and their priest David Chillman, and the congregation of Alberni Valley United Church and the Rev. Minnie Hornidge, along with all of us, prepare your way.

Here at Christ Church Gabriola, we thank you for Paddy who leads us in worship today. We ask that you continue to bless the work of the Worship Committee. We thank you for all who use their talents to help us worship and serve you. We thank you for our new minister, Karen, and ask that you bless her work among us.

#### **The world**

Shepherd God, as a result of Donald Trump's controversial declaration this week, we need to pray especially for Jerusalem. We "... pray for those [in Jerusalem] who are suffering physically, emotionally [or] spiritually and for all who minister among them. [We] pray for the Patriarchy and Heads of Churches ... for the Chief Rabbi, ...[and] for the Grand Mufti. [We] pray for all in public office who are committed to measures to de-escalate the level of conflict and restore calm and order. [We] pray for [Jerusalem] so that as the Psalmist says, its peoples will know "peace within its walls and quietness within its towers"... (Psalm 22:7)" Archbishop Fred Hiltz December 8, 2017 <http://www.anglican.ca/news/pray-jerusalem-call-prayer-primate/30020491/> Accessed Dec. 8 2017

We ask for peace for the many other troubled areas of the world, mentioning them silently or aloud.

PAUSE

God, in accordance with your promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness will be at home.

#### **Local community**

God, there are so many people in Canada, including here on Gabriola, with inadequate or nonexistent housing. Those of us who work in the Friday lunch program know many of them personally. We pause to mention silently those who are suffering from inadequate housing.

PAUSE

We ask that you give strength, energy and wisdom to all who are working so hard to find and implement solutions to the housing crisis. Give all of us concern for others so that we may create here a community of justice and peace where your will is done.

#### **Those near death**

We pray for those nearing death, thinking particularly of Nancy J. and Corinne's friend, Carolle.

PAUSE

We pray that they may pass peacefully on and that you will comfort all who sit by their sides.

#### **Those in need**

Shepherd God, we pray for all those awaiting or recovering from medical treatment and for all who are ill, including Diane P. and Carolyn P. We mention others known to us, silently or aloud.

PAUSE

God, please help us to pass on your comfort to all in need as you would have us do it. May we be gentle and helpful.

Shepherd God, we claim your promise that you will feed your flock, gather the lambs in your arms and gently lead the mother sheep.

Please join me in singing the Lord's Prayer, #959 in Voices United

