

one another in love through all the difficulties of life. [All sing *Our Father in Aramaic*]

A STORY OF FLOURISHING - Let us listen now to Sara's story.

THE OFFERING [Leader explains how the offering will be used]

OFFERTORY SONG [A song is sung, or music is played while offering is taken.]

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God, our cross is heavy, but together we are able to bear it. May this offering be a sign of our commitment to lead a life worthy of your calling. May it be a powerful instrument towards abundant life for all living things. Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

In the midst of injustices, wars, and suffering, God calls us to bear together in love. When we stay together through difficulty, we live into the peace that God promises us. And so, we share the peace of Christ as we exchange an olive branch/leaf. As we share this olive branch/leaf, let us speak these words in Arabic: "Salaam al Massih," which means "The peace of Christ."

[Exchange of olive branches/leaves that were distributed at the beginning of the service.]

WORDS OF COMMITMENT

Leader: Please join me in speaking aloud the commitment of your heart.

All: May we commit to working for peace as we stand with all women, particularly those experiencing oppression, violence, or discrimination. May we be faithful advocates with decision makers working on all levels of society, including religious institutions. May we bear with one another in love until God's justice and peace reign throughout the whole world.

Leader: Let us go now and be agents of peace and justice.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you, and grant you peace. Amen.

POSTLUDE

*For further information, please contact:
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Worship Service Bulletin

Prepared by the WDP Committee of Palestine
and the WDP USA Committee

PROCESSION

[Instrumental version of *I Urge You* starts playing.]

GREETING

Salaam. Peace be with you.

SALUTATION AND RESPONSE

Leader: We gather in the Name of the Triune God, Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Leader: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

OPENING PRAYER

PRAYER FOR PEACE—*Yarabba ssalami (God of Peace)*

Leader: Let us continue in prayer with the words of Psalm 85.

Lord, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

All: You forgave the iniquity of your people; you pardoned all their sin.

Leader: You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from your hot anger.

All: Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away your indignation toward us.

Leader: Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger to all generations?

All: Will you not revive us again, so that your people may rejoice in you?

Leader: Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.

All: Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

Leader: Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.

All: Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

Leader: Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.

All: The Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

Leader: Righteousness will go before him,

All: and will make a path for his steps.

[All reprise singing *Yarabba ssalami*]

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Let us praise God who brings us together to worship in love and unity.

All: Unity in the Triune God, transcending differences in views and theological interpretations.

Leader: Let us remember these essential qualities of people of faith: humility, gentleness, patience, and love.

All: We confess our weakness and failure to accept others without judging them.

Leader: With humility and patience, we bear the challenges in our families, society, community, and church.

All: With gentleness and love, we overcome everything. We remain strong in our faith, knowing that we belong to God. Amen.

GOSPEL READING—John 15:12,13,17

A STORY OF RESILIENCE – Let us listen to Eleonor’s story.

EPISTLE READING—Ephesians 4:1-7

SERMON/BIBLE STUDY

SILENT MEDITATION

Let us reflect now on the ways that God is moving us to bear together with others in love. [2-3 minutes of silent meditation; alternatively, this time could be a reflection on the Bible study developed by World Day of Prayer Palestine.]

HYMN – *I Urge You*

A STORY OF TRUTH TELLING - Let us listen now to Lina’s story.

HYMN – *We Walk by the Light of the Word*

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we now pray for women everywhere, for the world, and for those in need.

After each petition, you will hear me pray “Lead us into a life worthy of our calling.” You are invited to respond, “Hear our prayer.” Let us pray:

Leader: God of Righteousness... Lead us into a life worthy of our calling.

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Refugee God... Lead us into a life worthy of our calling.

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: God our Rock... Lead us into a life worthy of our calling.

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: God of Peace... Lead us into a life worthy of our calling.

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Healer and Sustaining Spirit... Lead us into a life worthy of our calling.

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: God of Mercy... Lead us into a life worthy of our calling.

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: God of Unity... Lead us into a life worthy of our calling.

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: How can we thank you, Loving God? We know that all our blessings come from you. Do not keep us far from you. Give us grace according to the measure of Christ’s gift and fill our hearts with joy. We offer these prayers, and the prayers of our hearts known only to you, trusting that you hear and answer them. In the name of God, Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER – *Our Father in Aramaic*

We continue now with the prayer that Jesus taught us. We will sing in Aramaic, the language that Jesus spoke. This prayer calls us to bear with