

Hope



Lord we pray for your peace
in a world where wars rage;
where people live in fear;
where people use their energy to hurt
rather than to heal and to divide
people rather than unite them.

But we also give thanks because we
see glimpses of hope:

people who reach out to help each other after earthquakes,
floods and storms;

people who offer schools instead of guns in a war zone;

groups that seek dialogue rather than confrontation across
ethnic lines better known for violence;

business leaders who give a pair of shoes to someone in need
for every pair they sell;

children who reach out to orphans in need far from their home,
or organize to make clean water wells available in Africa where
clean water means life.

Help us to focus on the power of your love which makes hope
possible rather than being caught up in the destructiveness of
fear.

Lord, remind us again there is no fear in love; but perfect love
casts out fear! Amen

This week pray for:

- **In this third week of Lent**, continue praying for the community of faith. What is there to celebrate in the faith community this week? Even in the mist of difficult or challenging times, do not lose sight of the joy of the Lord!
- Those who have been affected by the winter storms, flooding, mudslides, or tornados in the last weeks. Also remember those who live down stream of the current flooding and know it is coming their way.
- **Refugees and displaced people** who must face the cold of winter or the extreme heat of summer in a tent or makeshift shelter. . .
- **The people of Haiti, Venezuela, and other countries** where political and economic corruption are causing violence and hardship for the people.

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