

## Prayer for the World Week for Peace in Palestine and Israel 2016

### *Prayer based on Ephesians 2:14*

*For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility.*

God, loving Parent of all humankind, you are our Peace.

In Jesus Christ you embodied peace with justice .

and you still do . peace at its most down-to-earth,

peace, which can still prevail in the face of all the walls we build.

We confess our helpless anger, confronted

by concrete cutting across the daily lives of your children:

limits imposed on travel, study, healthcare,

work, worship, family connections, celebrations.

We confess our complicity in maintaining barriers

of ignorance, fear, privilege, prejudice, ~~usqand themq~~

Our world is crossed by razor wire

that tears at flesh and draws blood.

But you are our peace, with power

to cut this wire for good, to break down all our walls.

You are present now in the women of Machsom Watch

standing at the checkpoint, where they can be seen,

speaking out about what they see: **God of Peace, we thank you.**

You are present when former combatants, with courage,

stand together to denounce violence: **God of Peace, we thank you.**

You are present in the patience of people under Occupation

who stand their ground, embodying *sumoud*: **God of Peace, we thank you.**

You are present in Ecumenical Accompaniers, bearing witness.

**God of Peace, we thank you.**

Loving Parent of all humankind,

help us to share with our sisters and brothers

in Israel, Palestine and nearer home,

your work of breaking down the walls of separation,

your vital work of peace. **Amen**

*Jan Sutch Pickard 8.5.16*