# Prayer (Israeli & Palestinian Deaths)

Creator,

you are our comfort and strength,

you count and collect all of our tears,

you intimately know the deepest longings of our hearts.

We offer prayers of sorrow, grief, and yearning,

knowing that no words can adequately convey

the depths of feelings in our heart.

For what words can express the heartbreak, sorrow, and loss caused by the continued conflicts in Israel and Palestine?

What words can comfort the families and communities who have lost precious children and youth to violence?

What words, God, can help to de-escalate the tumult and prevent further casualties in the region?

There are no words.

You, however, know us completely and understand the longing in our prayers, even if the words we use are inadequate.

In this trust, we pray that you would surround the communities of those who are grieving ,especially their families. Many of the dead and the grieving, we do not even know by name.

We pray for just and compassionate investigations into all acts of violence that can help move communities toward healing and reconciliation and away from collective retribution.

We pray for a just and peaceful solution to the occupation, and we wait,

“more than those who watch for the morning” (Psalm 130:6)

for a time when Israel and Palestine will be a symbol of justice, peace, and liberation for all.

Amen.