Prayer for Israel/Palestine – Palm Sunday, 2016

Blessed is the one who wept over Jerusalem for not knowing the ways of peace.
Blessed is the one who yearned to gather us under her wing like a Mother hen.
Blessed is the one who rode a donkey through the shouts of joy and hope, palms waving and stones crying out.
Blessed is the Messiah who entered the dangerous streets of Jerusalem.

Hosanna, we fling wide the gates of our hearts to you.
We confess that we were looking for a more virile Messiah not a donkey rider, a mother hen.
We confess that we still do not know how to accept you.
We confess we prefer the shouting of Palm Sunday, over the darkness of Maundy Thursday,
the tears of Good Friday, the deathly quiet of Holy Saturday.

Hosanna, teach us the things that make for peace with justice, freedom and dignity.
Help us to recognize you in all your humble glory and in each other.

*By Rev. Loren McGrail March 14, 2016*