

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Thursday 12th October 2023

By Revd John Marshall

Walls and Wire

A prayer from Emma Clare Nutbrown. In Rage and Hope SPCK
She travelled to Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories while training for ministry in the United Reform Church.

Sustaining Lord, giver of life,
the land of milk and honey
Is awash with pain.
Where Jesus was born to set humanity free,
lives are hemmed in by walls and wire.
Where Jesus came to destroy barriers,
division's are marked by registration plates,
ID cards ,
no - go zones
and life expectancy.
Pour out your living water into that parched land
where olive trees are uprooted along with the hopes of generations,
where checkpoints choke futures,
where mothers wait for the water-supply to be switched on,
where homes are bulldozed and
land is snatched.
Lord, show your face to the traumatised families and
the teenage soldiers given guns.
Show the strength of your arm to those with no voice,
to the peacemakers who speak the truth.
We call for your justice to roll down,
life-giving and restorative,
more enduring than leaders's fleeting search for power,
exposing wrongdoing and our silence.
Forgive us when we fear that peace is but a pipe dream,
that your love is not powerful enough to destroy the walls we create.
Draw us into your healing and liberating work in the place
where Jesus broke open the doors to hope and life for all.

This we pray in his name.

Amen