



**SATURDAY, MARCH 29**

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O LORD, be gracious to us; we wait for you. Be our arm every morning, our salvation in the time of trouble.

—Isaiah 33:2

Our beloved and excellent Godly Play teacher received deportation papers.

Married to a U.S. citizen, she had hoped she would not have to leave her family and her job. Assisting her mother-in-law in a successful childcare business, she had grown to love her work with children and dreamed of studying child development. But now she would have to leave the U.S. and be sent to the dangerous city of Juarez, Mexico, to await her trial. Hundreds of women have been murdered there in the past few years, and the cases remain unsolved.

Her mother-in-law was heartbroken and would now be responsible for her two granddaughters and have one less employee. The congregation, especially the children, was saddened and worried that she may never return. On her last Sunday with us, we wanted to make the best of the situation, even though our hearts were breaking. She was given flowers, cards and presents and then asked to share a few words. With incredible conviction, she comforted us and shared her infinite faith in God. She assured us that God had a plan, and that no matter the outcome, she would be fine. She was fine. After nine months, she miraculously returned with papers to be reunited with her family and her church; and the family childcare business is thriving.

—**Mary Moreno Richardson**