



# Sabeel Wave of Prayer

April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017

This prayer ministry enables local and international friends of Sabeel to pray over regional concerns on a weekly basis. Sent to Sabeel's network of supporters, the prayer is used in services around the world and during Sabeel's Thursday Communion service; as each community in its respective time zone lifts these concerns in prayer at noon every Thursday, this "wave of prayer" washes over the world.

Last Friday, six thousand Palestinians and international visitors from around the world participated in the "Fifth Annual Free Movement Palestine Marathon" in Bethlehem. The Marathon objective is to open the eyes of the world to the situation of the Palestinians and their limited freedom of movement.

- *Lord, we give thanks to the creativity of the Palestinian people and their friends in raising awareness to the injustice in Palestine. We give thanks for another successful marathon and for all people who helped to organize it.*

*Leader: Lord in your mercy...*

*People: Hear our prayer*

Last Saturday, hundreds of Jews and Arabs took part in a Jerusalem march against the occupation. The rally is meant to «protest against the continued Israeli control over the territories and especially East Jerusalem, and in favour of a peaceful and justice solution for both peoples.

- *Lord, we pray for the amazing people who refuse to surrender to evil and work towards a better tomorrow. We give thanks for all Palestinians and Israelis who continue to walk together hand in hand so your will is done. Lord in your mercy....*

With Palm Sunday this weekend, many Palestinian Christians living in the West Bank are still waiting to hear if they will obtain permits from the Israeli military to go to Jerusalem for the holiday celebrations and worship.

*• Lord, we pray that all Palestinians will have access to their places of worship in Jerusalem, and that the Holy City will be open to all faiths. Lord in your mercy...*

Sabeel is organizing their annual walk along the Contemporary Way of the Cross, in preparation for the Holy season of Easter. This walk joins together the suffering of Christ on the Cross with the suffering of Palestinians in the present, and connects the stations of the Cross with contemporary issues of injustice within Israel and Palestine.

*• God, we ask that you be with those attending this year's walk. Send your Holy Spirit to guide them as they remember the suffering Christ experienced as he was being led to the cross, and as they link the present suffering of the Palestinian people to it. Remind them too, God, that the joy of Easter Sunday follows the pain of Good Friday. Lord we know the present injustices in the world will end and you have the final word. Lord, in your mercy...*

Last Thursday, the Israeli security cabinet unanimously approved the establishing of a new settlement to house settlers evacuated from the illegal outpost of Amona. This is the first time in over 20 years that Israel has established a new West Bank settlement.

*• God, Israel continues to steal our land and uproot our Palestinian people with no mercy. We pray that the international community will act courageously to enforce international law and put an end to the Israeli government's greed and arrogance. Lord in your mercy...*

*• We join the World Council of Churches in praying for the countries of the Balkans - Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, FYR of Macedonia, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia and Slovenia. Lord in your mercy...*