



Sabeel Wave of Prayer

November 18th, 2021

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.

On Tuesday 16th November, Kumi Now heard from Khaled Quzmar of Defence for Children International, Palestine (DCIP) on the subject of children's rights. On Thursday 25th November the world will recognise the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. Kumi Now, on Tuesday 23rd November, will hear about Gender-Based Violence and how we can all act to end violence towards women.

- **God, you love all your children. Look with special care upon those daughters who suffer physically and emotionally simply because they are women. Surround them with your protecting angels this day, that they might know safety. Give them that measure of your Spirit that they might not lose heart but entrust their lives wholly to you. Give us the courage to stand steadfast at their side, never wavering to speak the truth of their plight and to put our own lives to the test on behalf of our beloved sisters. Lord, in your mercy...hear our prayers.**

After 113 days, 24-year-old Miqdad Qawasmeh ended his hunger strike on November 11th following an agreement that he will be released from his administrative detention by Israeli occupation forces in February 2022. Miqdad has been held without trial or formal charges since January 2021.

- **God of the suffering, we pray that Miqdad will have a full recovery from the effects caused by his hunger strike. We pray that the Israeli authorities will keep their agreement and release Miqdad. Grant to all those currently under administrative detention the strength to endure, and to the Israeli authorities, the understanding of the wrongs they commit and the grace to end them. Lord, in your mercy...hear our prayer.**

On Wednesday 9th November the Knesset, Israel's parliament, approved by 51 votes to 50, in a preliminary vote, a bill to build a new public hospital in the northern city of Sakhnin. If further approval is given, this hospital would be the first public hospital to be built in a mainly Palestinian city, where healthcare has mainly relied on private hospitals and clinics run by churches and NGOs.

- **Lord of healing, we pray that the Israeli authorities will carry through with the agreement to build a new hospital in Sakhnin and that the other hospitals suggested are also built. We pray that all those in need of hospital care will be free to access it and that your healing presence will descend upon them and the doctors who care for them. Lord, in your mercy...hear our prayer.**

Monday, November 15th marks the anniversary of the Palestinian Declaration of Independence. The declaration was written by Palestinian Poet Mahmoud Darwish and proclaimed by Yasser Arafat on 15th November 1988. The text speaks of peace and justice, declaring that; "The State of Palestine, in declaring that it is a peace-loving State committed to the principles of peaceful coexistence, shall strive, together with all other States and peoples, for the achievement of a lasting peace based on justice and respect for rights, under which the human potential for constructive activity may flourish, mutual competition may centre on life-sustaining innovation and there is no fear for the future, since the future bears only assurance for those who have acted justly or made amends to justice."

- **God of mercy, even as we long to understand that which is often beyond our comprehension, we lay before you the hearts, minds, and bodies of all those suffering from oppression in Palestine and Israel and the ongoing occupation. Shower upon all the people of the Holy Land the spirit of justice and peace. Give to all people the blessings of well-being, freedom, and harmony, and, above all things, strengthen us to care for all those in need. Lord, in your mercy...hear our prayers.**

After a long break due to Covid-19, Sabeel is returning to important in-person activities in Palestine. On November 22nd and 23rd, Sabeel will hold a clergy retreat for over 40 local clergy, a time for them to come together in peace and fellowship whilst exploring faith and the pathway to a just peace.

- **We pray dear Lord for your blessing on this Retreat and for the ecumenical spirit that prevails in the Sabeel programs. Guide the speakers and the participants to be nourished by this fellowship and help them disseminate the right attitude in their parishes so that the "Other" will be a Blessing. Lord in your mercy...hear our prayer.**

Friends of Sabeel North America (FOSNA) are holding an Advent event to encourage clergy and others to 'Be Alert: Preach Palestine.' The campaign asks everyone to "lift up Palestinian people such that they would come to experience the joy, justice, and peace of Christ's liberating reign, as a very real light in the present darkness." (<https://www.fosna.org/preach-palestine-blog>)

- **Dear Lord, we pray that Christians around the world will respond to the message to 'Preach Palestine'. Lord of mercy and compassion, we ask you to move the hearts of believers in different lands. We pray for their renewed efforts to alert their congregations and their governments to the suffering of the Palestinians under prolonged occupation. We pray blessing upon FOSNA as they work tirelessly for justice and peace in Palestine and for the success of the 'Be Alert: Preach Palestine 2021' campaign. Lord, in your mercy...hear our prayer.**

Six new booklets produced by Rev Dr. Naim Ateek will be launched at a Zoom event on Friday 3rd December. The booklets cover a range of topics based on lectures, sermons, and messages written by Rev Ateek over many years. (sign up at https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYsd-ysrjwqGdez8XvN9_C4HWkX-asdretE)

- **Lord, we give thanks for Rev Ateek, his faithful and ongoing witness for justice and peace based on your word. Bless these writings as they are released in booklet form for the first time and set a seed in the hearts of those who read them so that they may find words to stir their hearts and motivate their actions. Lord, in your mercy...hear our prayers.**
- **We join with the World Council of Churches in their prayers for Aotearoa New Zealand and Australia. Lord, in your mercy...hear our prayers.**