



Sabeel Wave of Prayer

June 6th, 2024

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.

Israel continues to pound Rafah with bombs, resulting in multiple massacres. Some areas of the bombardment were designated as humanitarian safe zones where Israeli officials told Palestinians to flee. There are no more functional hospitals and ambulances in Rafah. Despite the recent ICJ ruling, Israeli continues its military operations. All eyes on Rafah.

- **Incarnated Christ in Rafah, we come to you echoing the lament of the psalmist "Why, O Lord, do you stand far off? Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?" (Psalm 10:1). Lord, cultivate in us a stubborn hope which carries on regardless of our understanding, capability, and faith. Work through us, O Lord, in these dark times. Lord in your mercy... hear our prayer**

On the 30th of May, Shadi Khoury, the grandson of one of our founders, Samia Khoury, was back in Israeli courts. Shadi was arrested brutally along with other children in 2022 under the false accusation of disturbance and plans to cause harm to Israelis. Since then, Shadi has been under house arrest with a long series of trials and sessions attempting to convict him. Despite this, Shadi was able to graduate from high school on June 2nd with the support of his peers, friends, and teachers at the Friends School in Ramallah.

- **God of mercy, we pray for Shadi and his family who are suffering from the cruelty of the empire. We thank you for the support of his school despite everything and ask you to strengthen Shadi in times of weakness and healing through liberation. Lord, give sight to those who are blind to their participation in oppression. We remember the proverb that, "Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue lasts only a moment" (Proverbs 12:19). Lord in your mercy... hear our prayer**

Over 2 million Gazans remain at risk of food-insecurity, and half are at risk of starvation. Several Gazans, many of them children, have been killed due to the ongoing man-made famine. The reports of the famine in Gaza cannot depict the full scale of suffering. The news that manages to come out of Gaza may be the tip of the iceberg. According to UNRWA “food insecurity” has increased by 80 percent since December. Furthermore, the UN has suspended aid due to untenable security caused by the Israeli military invasion of Rafah.

- **God of the starving, we pray for the millions of Gazans who are going through an engineered famine. Multiply the little aid and food in Gaza as you did when feeding the 5,000 and stop this horror of starvation. Lord, we also pray for our oppressors who are having their own famine of love and repentance. We hold on to our faith that, “the poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the Lord” (Psalm 22:26).
Lord in your mercy... hear our prayer**

Last week, during an Israeli military raid in Ramallah, Israeli forces fired tear gas, live ammunition, and stun grenades into a fruit and vegetable market. Consequently, the market caught on fire and Palestinian firefighters battled with the flames for several hours. At least one Palestinian was injured in the attack. This attack is symbolic of the destruction people experience regularly across the West Bank.

- **Divine creator, you entrusted us to be stewards of your good creation. Lord, help us fulfill our responsibilities by resisting the empires who are reckless with their power, destroying anything in their path. We remember that the, “One who is wise is cautious and turns away from evil, but a fool is reckless and careless” (Proverbs 14:16). Lord, sober up the powerful and give us wisdom as we fight for justice.
Lord in your mercy... hear our prayer**

Friends of Sabeel Germany have been diligently working towards justice and peace in Palestine-Israel. They have written several letters addressing the inaction of Church leadership in Germany concerning the ongoing events in Palestine-Israel. Additionally, they have translated Palestinian theological resources into German, assisted with a speaking tour across Germany for the Tent of Nations, and engaged in various other activities.

- **Holy God, you have created us to be in community with one another. Lord, we thank you for the friendship and works of Friends of Sabeel Germany and all those who are envisioning a just peace in Palestine-Israel. Lord, continue working through all people all around the world so that your will be done on earth.
Lord in your mercy... hear our prayer**

Sabeel-Kairos Netherlands is part of organising a series of protests titled “Jesus has left the building”. For the next 6 Sundays there will be organised Church walkouts due to its lukewarm stances over the suffering in Gaza and lack of action. This series of walkouts is an invitation for all Church denominations to participate in.

- **Loving God, thank you for the love of our friends across the globe who continue to show us their love through their organizing and work for justice. We thank you for the leadership of Sabeel-Kairos Netherlands and for all who will participate in these protests. Bless all those who are witnessing to your “upside-down Kingdom” by disrupting the status-quo.
Lord in your mercy... hear our prayer**
- **We join with the World Council of Churches in their prayer for the countries of Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, and Eswatini.
Lord in your mercy... hear our prayer**