



Sabeel Wave of Prayer

July 18th, 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.

Since October 7th it has been difficult to estimate the death toll in Gaza due to the catastrophic destruction and collapse of civil services. Last week, one of the most credible and oldest medical journals, The Lancet, has claimed that it is not implausible to estimate that up to 186,000 or even more deaths could be attributable to the current conflict in Gaza. This translates to 7.9% of the population in Gaza having been killed. The bombing in Gaza has been relentless, especially in areas such as Khan Yunis, Al-Mawasi, and other refugee camps.

- **God incarnated in Khan Tunis, Al-Mawasi, and in Gaza overall, help us to be disturbed with the suffering in Gaza. We repent by dehumanising the dead in Gaza by counting them as numbers, but not as people who had dreams and aspirations. How long, O lord, will this nightmare continue? Let the victims of injustice, remind us of our mandate to practice revolutionary love.**
Lord in your mercy... hear our prayer

Last week, the Episcopal Church of Jerusalem and the Middle East issued a statement condemning the closure of Al-Ahli Anglican hospital in Gaza due to Israeli military activity and evacuation orders in the area. Likewise, the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem issued a statement condemning Israeli military activity against the Sacred Family School in Gaza. Thankfully, the Al-Ahli hospital managed to reopen partially on Thursday the 11th of August.

- **Holy God, we are grateful for the Church institutions who serving the people of Gaza. Lord, bless those who strive to provide shelter and healing to the oppressed. May their example ignite within us a passion to show our love through service to all, especially the oppressed and afflicted. We pray that the global Church awakens and uses its power to advocate for truth and justice.**
Lord in your mercy... hear our prayer

Israeli forces continue to raid towns and camps in the West Bank. The refugee camps of Jenin, Nablus, Tulkarem, and others have endured severe infrastructure damage from the Israeli bulldozers. Moreover, Palestinian youth get shot or detained on a weekly basis. Over 500 Palestinians in the West Bank have died since the 7th of October, many of them children.

- **God of the oppressed, everyday crimes are being committed, too many to count. Lord, how is the world so numb and ineffective towards the war crimes committed in the West Bank more than ever before? Lord, remind us that although the world seems to function with double standards which provide justice and mercy to the few, all are seen equally in your eyes and all will be judged accordingly, irrespective of their identity.
Lord in your mercy... hear our prayer**

The Israeli army has installed a ceiling above the Ibrahimi Mosque in Hebron without permission from the Palestinian authorities. Palestinian officials have accused the Israeli army of trying to change the features of the Ibrahimi Mosque, erasing the historical character of the Mosque.

- **God of inclusivity, we know that Holy spaces are meant to be places of worship for all, not for some. Lord, we pray that you illuminate to the world that the actions of Israel in Holy places are a part of a larger structural system of injustice. Lord, protect the Ibrahimi Mosque and ensure that its rich and diverse features are preserved.
Lord in your mercy... hear our prayer**

Friends of Sabeel North America (FOSNA) will be hosting Rev. Dr. Munther Isaac in 8 cities across the United States this summer. These cities include Atlanta, Chicago, Minneapolis, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pittsburgh, and South Carolina. Details from each city will be shared shortly by FOSNA.

- **God under the rubble, we thank you for the teamwork our movement has, functioning as one body with many parts. We pray that you bless Rev. Dr. Issac as he witnesses to your goodness and mercy in the heart of the empire. Lord, grant all in our movement wisdom rooted in humility, unwavering strength grounded in faith, and accuracy instructed by the Holy Spirit.
Lord in your mercy... hear our prayer**

Last week, Friends of Sabeel France announced that Ernest Reichert has stepped down in the role as president, and Marilyn Pacouret will be the newly elected president. Sabeel is grateful for the dedicated service Ernest has given over the years and looks forward to working with Marilyn Pacouret in the role as president.

- **Loving Father, we thank you for working through Ernest and we ask you to bless him for his service. We pray for a smooth transition for Marilyn in her new role. We pray that you grant Marilyn wisdom and courage, so that Friends of Sabeel France be able to witness to your love for the oppressed.
Lord in your mercy... hear our prayer**
- **We join with the World Council of Churches in their prayer for the countries of Djibouti and Somalia.
Lord in your mercy... hear our prayers**