



Sabeel Wave of Prayer

Aug 29th, 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.

On August 15, 2024, Israeli settlers began constructing an illegal outpost on a section of the Tent of Nations farm, which is owned by the Nassar family. Almost daily, Israeli military forces, security personnel, or settlers attempt to prevent the Nassar family from working on their farm and have damaged the farm's fences. The Tent of Nations urges its supporters to contact their elected officials and governments to pressure the Israeli military authorities to ensure the Nassar family has free access to their farm.

- **O Lord, giver of life and source of freedom, you have called us to be stewards of Your abundance, not to conquer or destroy. We thank you for the witness of the Nassar family, who have embodied what it means to be generous, faithful caretakers of the gifts you have entrusted to us. As they seek justice and truth, we ask that you continue to protect them. Oh, Holy Spirit, continue to fill them with Sumud to continue to stand as strong as the olive trees. Lord, in your mercy... hear our prayer.**

Last week, Israel committed new massacres in Gaza, including at the Mustafa Hafez school, that killed dozens of Palestinians, the majority of whom were children. The Israeli army also issued evacuation orders in the central Gazan city of Deir al-Balah, once again leaving families with nowhere to go as Israel expands its war.

- **God of peace, comfort the families of those killed and grant peace to the injured. Protect the families as they continue seeking shelter and necessities. Grant the oppressed justice and liberation. Lord, empower our institutions and leaders to do justice. In our despair, we echo the Psalmist's confidence in Psalm 72:12: "For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no helper." Lord, in your mercy... hear our prayer.**

Last week, Defence for Children International Palestine released a report detailing Israel's widespread policy of "detaining and torturing" Palestinian children in Gaza. The report, which says some children have been used as human shields, cites children who say they have been subjected to systemic torture and abuse.

- **O Merciful and Just Creator, we come before You with heavy hearts, grieving for the innocent lives caught in the chains of oppression. We despair and hold righteous anger at a world that has accepted the abuse of our children. We lift up the children of Gaza, whose voices cry out from the depths of suffering, asking for Your divine intervention. Holy Spirit, be with them in their moments of despair and heal their wounds. Guide us to seek accountability for the oppressors and uphold the dignity of all life. Lord, in your mercy... hear our prayer.**

Last week, hundreds of activists gathered in Chicago outside the Democratic National Convention to protest the Democratic administration's involvement in and support of the genocide in Gaza. Police in riot gear were posted outside the building and violently arrested protesters, including journalists.

- **Gracious and Loving God, we come before You with hearts full of gratitude for the courage and dedication of all those who stand up for justice, peace, and the end to violence. We especially lift up the hundreds of activists who gathered in Chicago, risking their safety to speak truth to power and bring attention to the suffering in Gaza. We thank You for their unwavering commitment to justice, even in the face of adversity, and for their willingness to be a voice for the voiceless. We pray for their protection, for their strength, and for their continued resolve to work for a world where peace and justice reign. Lord, in your mercy... hear our prayer.**

Last week, the country of Colombia banned coal exports to Israel in an effort "to pressure the government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to end the conflict in Gaza." The Colombian president said that Israel uses Colombian coal to make bombs to kill Palestinian children. Colombia is Israel's largest coal supplier. In May, Colombia suspended diplomatic relations with Israel. Other countries, like Scotland, have also suspended meetings with the Israeli government until significant "progress" is made in negotiations for a ceasefire in the Gaza Strip.

- **God of Justice and Peace, we come before You with heavy hearts, seeking Your guidance and wisdom in these troubled times. We pray for justice, for the end of violence, and for the protection of innocent lives. We pray for an end to the suffering of all specially children and all who are caught in the crossfire. Let Your justice roll down like waters and Your righteousness like a mighty stream, bringing peace where there has been pain and hope where there has been despair. Lord, in your mercy... hear our prayer.**

Sabeel joins the World Council of Churches in calling for the release of Laya Nasir, a member of the Anglican Church, who has been under administrative detention since April 2024 without legal charges or due process. We also join the WCC in calling for the protection of Jerusalem as a place where freedom of worship is respected.

- **Merciful and Just God, we lift our voices in prayer, joining with the World Council of Churches as we call for the release of Laya Nasir, one of many members of our community who are being unjustly held in administrative detention without charges or due process. Lord, we ask that justice may prevail and that she may be reunited with her loved ones in freedom and peace. We also pray for the protection of Jerusalem, the holy city, that it may remain a place where the freedom of worship is upheld and respected for all. May Your peace and justice reign in this sacred land. Lord, in your mercy... hear our prayer.**
- **We join the World Council of Churches in praying for the countries of Cape Verde, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, and Senegal. Lord, in your mercy... hear our prayer.**