



Sabeel Wave of Prayer

Aug 13th, 2026

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 month, after eight years of legal proceedings, Israeli authorities expelled the 13-member elderly Basha family from their historic family home on al-Wad Street in the Old City of Jerusalem, which their ancestors have lived in since the 1930s. The house was given over to settlers. Al-Wad Street is the most crowded street in the area, serving as a lifeline for residents and visitors due to its proximity to al-Aqsa Mosque and the Via Dolorosa. Residents fear that the takeover is the first of many to come on a street that is central to Palestinian history and life in the Old City.

- **Holy God, we pray for the Basha family. Be their shelter and their stronghold as they experience the seizure and loss of their home due to settler colonialism. As we witness the stealing of land daily, we cry to you to save the oppressed like the Psalmist declares: "Deliver me, O Lord, from evildoers; protect me from those who are violent, who plan evil things in their minds and stir up wars continually." (Psalm 140:1-2) Lord in your mercy...hear our prayer**

Hiroshima Day was commemorated on August 6, and Nagasaki Day was observed on August 9. These two days commemorate the American atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The aerial bombings killed 150,000 to 246,000 people, most of whom were civilians. In the decades after Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the United States threatened many times to use its nuclear weapons, and over 12,000 nuclear warheads still exist today across the world. In Gaza, a city three times smaller than Hiroshima, Israel has dropped an estimated 200,000 tons of bombs, which is the size of roughly 14 Hiroshima sized atomic bombs.

- **Lord of all nations, you have given us the gift of creation to care for. We confess that we have often taken this gift for granted. We have developed weapons that threaten humanity instead of protecting life. Help us to repent for our participation in structural sins and in doing so, work towards a future free from systems of domination and violence. Lord, in your mercy... hear our prayer**

Israel recently approved construction for a designated area of southern Gaza that will be designed to reshape reality on the ground and permanently fragment Gaza. Dubbed “Green Rafah”, the project is designed to create isolated cantons under total Israeli administrative and security control, forcing Palestinians there to either submit to Israeli policies, be imprisoned, or emigrate.

- **Holy God, our souls are overwhelmed with sorrow by the actions of empires. The present circumstances seem to have no end in sight. Lord, be present with the people of Rafah and help us expose all evil deeds. We pray that all injustice will be dismantled and true liberation and peace will prevail. Lord in your mercy...hear our prayer**

The Hosanna Preaching Project is a program of the Palestine Justice Network of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The project was established in 2014 to challenge and equip preachers to engage with issues of Palestinian justice using the best contemporary theological resources. The project will hold a one-day seminar on August 13. The seminar will help participants develop more authentic stories about the realities on the ground and speak to their local communities with honesty and urgency. More information can be found at www.hosannapreachingproject.com.

- **Loving God, we give thanks to all our Christians siblings who, through their acts of solidarity, embody the persistent widow bothering unjust judges. We pray that their faithful organizing and witness will help dismantle theologies of violence and build your Kingdom of righteousness and peace in their place. Lord, illuminate to us where we can be prophetic voices in our lives and bear witness to the oppressed. Lord in your mercy...hear our prayer**

Last week was the Feast of the Transfiguration, commemorates the moment when Jesus revealed his divine glory to Peter, James and John atop a mountain. Sabeel invited biblical scholar Dr. Sylvia Keesmaat to reflect on the theme of the Transfiguration at Sabeel's Thursday Service, the recording of which can be viewed on Sabeel's Youtube channel. Sabeel also created a shareable post on the Transfiguration, which is viewable and shareable on Sabeel's Instagram account.

- **Holy God, we give thanks to your Son in all the ways he continues to reveal himself to us. Through the Transfiguration, may we commit to lifting our gaze and not succumb to despair. Lord, transform us daily into the likeness of your Son Jesus Christ that we may be faithful witnesses to your love and justice. Lord in your mercy...hear our prayer**
- **We join the World Council of Churches in their prayers for the people of Cameroon, Central African Republic, Equatorial Guinea. Lord in your mercy...hear our prayers**