



PRAYER LETTER 48

This prayer letter is sent on behalf of ACO France and written by Rev. Laurence Gangloff.

Introduction to the prayer

In this month of May it is spring again in our latitudes. After having celebrated the resurrection of Jesus we would like now to believe in a new beginning for ourselves too, just like what happens in our beautiful nature. But we know that elsewhere, and particularly in India right now, the Covid 19 pandemic is raging. The lack of oxygen, of medicines, of human and health care forces are pointing towards difficult times that we do not want to experience. Jerusalem is once again burning with anger in an all too often seen violence, while Beirut is day by day sinking deeper and deeper into economic difficulties.

Our daily life is made up of difficulties and violence and it requires more and more efforts to preserve a space of inner peace and serenity.

Prayer

See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone;
flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come,
the cooing of doves is heard in our land.

Song of Songs 2, v.11-12

God, in the Bible, you are presented as the Creator God. We come to you and we want to praise you for the beauty of your creation. Every flower is unique and splendid. Every plant bears witness to perfection. Every animal has its place in this perfect world you have created. Every man and every woman have been created in your likeness... With this praise that naturally rises to our lips, we want to thank you and recognize your place of creator.

God, you are also presented as a father and as a mother. You take care of your children. We turn to you to entrust the believers of this world to you. We especially entrust to you the protection for those who are suffering and for those who no longer have words to call you for help. We pray for those in mourning, for the families of the victims. We ask you for the gift of consolation, so that we may with each other and for each other, become witnesses of your tenderness and your love for every man, every woman, every child.

God, you became incarnate in Jesus. Born to a woman. You are the one who grew up and became the man, the messiah, the crucified and the resurrected whom we confess. We entrust you to all the children of the earth. We remember that Jesus, in his lifetime, welcomed them and gave them his blessing. Grant us to live with them as Jesus himself showed us by example.

God, you are present in us like a breath of life, like the Spirit of life. We call on you especially for the sick, for those who are struggling to find their breath, and for all those in pain. We pray for those who no longer find meaning in their lives. Be a breath of life, a breath of Spirit, a breath of love for them. When words fail us, may you God, breath of life, come and blow your Spirit of life, of peace, of love and of consolation on all of us!

Amen

Laurence Gangloff is a pastor, she works in the catechesis service of the Union of Protestant Churches in Alsace-Lorraine (UEPAL). She is the international president of the World Day of Prayer. Herself and her husband, Frédéric Gangloff, stayed in Lebanon while he was teaching at the Near East School of Theology, from 1996 to 2001.