

SPRING 2022

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LOTT CAREY HERALD

ENVISION
A WORLD
WITHOUT
GENDERED
RACISM

10th ANNIVERSARY
WOMEN'S
GLOBAL
PRAYER
GUIDE

31
DAYS OF
PRAYER
FOR WOMEN'S
EMPOWERMENT

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Empowering Women: God Bless This Most Valuable Resource

By Rev. Emmett L. Dunn

Ten years ago, Lott Carey's Women in Service Everywhere (WISE) launched the first edition of the *Annual Women's Global Prayer Guide* as a resource for the church at-large. Over the years, the published prayers and articles have served as an inspiration to those who identified with the plight of so many, particularly our mothers and sisters across the globe. Today, the entire Lott Carey network joins our sisters in celebrating how God has used this resource to bless our faith community.

I extend my sincere congratulations to the past and present leaders of WISE. As you celebrate a decade of God's faithfulness, I challenge and encourage you to continue to strive for excellence. This global prayer guide has raised issues that would have remained silent had it not been for the deliberate effort on your part to uncover the hurt, injustices, and outright abuse faced by women everywhere. Let this magazine continue to serve as an outlet for amplifying women's voices.

As you embark on a new decade of producing the prayer edition of the *Lott Carey Herald*, be assured of my support as Lott Carey's Executive Leader and that of the Board of Directors. We value the contributions of WISE and cherish the partnership that we share in promoting the work and witness of Lott Carey to the global family.

This year's emphasis, *gendered racism*, is yet another indication of your commitment to be prophetic as you empower women everywhere and challenge the rest of us to be true to the gospel message of inclusivity. Thank you and congratulations.

Rev. Emmett L. Dunn is Publisher & Editor of the Lott Carey Herald and Executive Secretary-Treasurer of Lott Carey.



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Together, We Are Stronger!

“She gave this name to the LORD who spoke to her: ‘You are the God who sees me,’ for she said, ‘I have now seen the One who sees me.’”

— Genesis 16:13 NIV

By Dr. Gina M. Stewart

“Teamwork makes the dream work” is the phrase that comes to mind when reflecting on the 10th Anniversary of the *31 Days of Prayer for Women’s Empowerment*. When women come together with a common vision and goal, empowered and committed to work together, they accomplish more than they could ever expect or imagine.

The prayer guide is the fruit of a dream and teamwork. For years, this dream took shape as a week of prayer, but over time has evolved as each President of the Women in Service Everywhere (WISE) leadership team added another dimension to create, encourage, empower, and enlighten:

- Under President Antionette Winslow’s tenure, the monthly prayer guide was birthed.
- Under President Debra Glass Garner’s tenure, the monthly prayer call came into existence.
- Under President Carol Mohamed’s tenure, the monthly prayer guide became a resource for Bible Studies and Youth Groups.
- Under President Rosette Tabb Graham’s tenure, the monthly prayer guide featured Gender Justice issues.
- Under President Angelita Clifton’s tenure, the prayer guide continues to evolve and is being used by incarcerated women, women in halfway houses, and transitional settings—validating their lived experiences regarding gender injustice.

Commemorating the 200th Anniversary of Lott Carey’s ministry while celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the prayer guide is certainly a glimpse of God’s glory. As WISE continues to shed light on the subtle but very significant issues women face worldwide, we envision a “World Without Gendered Racism” and we rejoice in the faithfulness of the God who sees us.

Soli Deo Gloria (Glory to God Alone).

Dr. Gina M. Stewart is President of Lott Carey and Senior Pastor of Christ Missionary Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee.



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Jehovah Jireh

Where God guides, God provides.

— Isaiah 58:11 paraphrased

By Dr. Angelita Clifton

In September of 2021, a woman was kicked in the chest by a male perpetrator. The blow had such force she nosedived off the escalator, collapsing on the concrete in a New York City subway tunnel.

In October of 2021, a sister was manhandled by a stranger for forty minutes on a subway train in Philadelphia. In the city of Brotherly Love, a daughter of God was raped while bystanders on the train recorded the assault for social media.

In December of 2021, a pregnant mother of two was beaten and abducted by her boyfriend while at work in Florida. Her remains were found by a cadaver dog in a wooded area. Her boyfriend was arrested and charged with her murder.

The pandemic has brought historically rooted inequalities into view. Throughout the global community, human rights violations against young girls and women are on the rise. They are kidnapped, molested, lured into trafficking, and physically and sexually assaulted. These are lives forever changed by trauma. The saddest part of it all is the silence in society, especially in the sanctuary. The quiet is deafening.

Intersectionality, a term coined by legal scholar Kimberlé Crenshaw, reveals how structural gendered racism shapes the perception, position, practice, pay, primary care, and the overall psyche of women and girls around the world. Globally, an estimated 736 million women—almost one in three—have been subjected to intimate partner violence, non-partner sexual violence, or both at least once in their lifetime. Just ruminate on that staggering statistic for a moment. One in every three of your female friends has experienced violence.

In 2022, the WISE leadership team is calling everyone to get involved in five ways:

1. Pausing to increase awareness about the intersectionality of sexism and racism.
2. Praying to end structural gendered racism fueling violence against women.
3. Pledging your support for the Lott Carey WISE social media campaign, **Thursdays in Black**, in partnership with the World Council of Churches and the Ecumenical Women at the United Nations.
4. Posting your selfies on various social media platforms on Thursdays,



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Day 1 Australia: Genesis 16:13



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“My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor, and some style.” — Maya Angelou

Ancient of Days, we remind ourselves of the prayer we placed in our family home. A prayer that said, “Christ is the head of the home, the unseen guest of every meal, the silent listener to every conversation.” Ancient One, empower us to see this prayer differently. Give us renewed faith to believe with the Apostle Paul, when he reminded us all that; “For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.” Help us see Your Son sitting with us through all the conversations we have about the wisdom and knowledge needed to undo all the damage done to our mothers and daughters.

Ancient of Days, You are not the unseen guest. You are seen through the lives of the poor, the prisoner, the refugee, the widow, the single mother, the sick and needy, the hungry and thirsty, the tired and weary soldier. Because of our greed, countries are being destroyed by rapid climate change which causes fires, flooding, and rising sea levels that destroy our homes. Ancient of Days, You are always visible in the beauty of all your creation.

Ancient of Days, You are not the silent listener. You are the angry and frightened voice of our youth and children who want protection and who care for themselves and their family members. You are the wise old elder who knows the secrets of life’s deep sacred lessons that protect and preserve Your knowledge of creation and the sacred love You placed in the hearts of all our mothers and grandmothers.

Ancient of Days, empower us to see you in all that we do for Your creation, for our mothers and daughters, and for our neighbors. Open our hearts to feel Your divine presence in every conversation we have to restore Your family.

Ancient of Days, open our ears to hear Your voice and apply our hands to produce the healing of all our families and communities. We ask these mercies in the name of Your son Jesus, our ancestor in faith.

*Larissa A. Minniecon
Member
Scarred Tree Indigenous Ministries
Sydney, Australia*



Day 2 Bahamas: Matthew 3:10

Dear Creator of the human race,
We come to You in the only name that we know is capable of cutting to the root of sin and eradicating its effects. We believe Jesus is still setting the oppressed free. Still pulling down the strongholds of spiritual wickedness from high places. Still using those who call on His name to bring about justice on earth as it is in heaven. Thank You for giving us the power to bind and loose things in prayer on earth that You will bind and loose in heaven.

Today we pray that Your Holy Spirit would empower men and women in the Bahamas so that the scales of gendered racism would fall from their eyes, their hearts, and their minds. Regardless of skin color or any other distinct physical characteristics, please show them that we are all made in Your image and likeness. May this revelation from on high result in Your daughters being treated justly in church and society.

We bind the internal colonialism in the Bahamas that places Black women in a subordinate status and causes them to be treated unequally. We bind the internal oppression that causes Black people to sometimes see themselves as inferior. We bind discrimination against Your daughters on the grounds of their skin color, hair texture, or body type.

We loosen a spirit of unity, community, and cooperation between Your sons and Your daughters. We loosen racial reconciliation and the revelation that all of Your children are fearfully and wonderfully made. May Your children see one another as equals so that the gifts and talents You have given Your daughters may be put to work for equal pay, equal honor, and equal appreciation.

Let the purifying fire of liberation start in the church and spread out into the world in the name of Jesus. Amen.

*Rev. Dr. Carol Lynn Patterson
Chief Evangelism Officer
Setting the Captives Free Ministries
New Brunswick, New Jersey*



Day 3 Bangladesh: Mark 8:33

Maruf Rahman, Pixabay

Dear God, please let Your divine power be upon the women of Bangladesh. Cover them in Your light when they are facing dark times and feeling alone. Protect their minds when they are told “you’re overreacting,” “you don’t know what you’re talking about,” “you’re being too uptight,” “you’re not in the right state of mind.” Protect their self-esteem when they’re told how someone else has it worse or how their situation could be worse. Protect them, Lord, from those who try to gaslight my Bangladeshi sisters — deviating and disguising the issue of discrimination, shifting the blame, and belittling their emotional state. To all my sisters who have fallen prey to gaslighting, your sanity has not failed you. Intellectually, economically, politically, socially, personally, and spiritually your reality is often distorted by the intersectionality of culture and customs; man-made rituals, and man-made rules. But we thank God

we are not blinded by the socially constructed identities intended to rob us of our true purpose. We thank You God for living within our hearts and giving us the courage we need to survive moments that seem impossible. Lord, You are our savior, our protector, our provider, and our guide. Please continue to carry us through the harshest of times. You are an ever-present help and our healer in a time of trouble. This I know, this I believe, and this I pray. Amen, Amen and Amen.

*Dr. Liza Chowdhury
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Day 4 *Brazil: Psalm 139:14*

Dear Lord, creator of life, give us courage and strength to face gendered racism. We place before you the lives of Black women in Brazil. They are heirs to a history of colonization and slavery.

Spirit of Liberty, we remember that the end of slavery did not mean the end of racism. We ask forgiveness for this sin of color division between Your sons and daughters. Help us to transform, Lord, this cruel structure that has been integrated into the daily lives of men and women who are considered inferior and subaltern. We recognize that this is an offense to You, Lord God.

Your daughters suffer doubly, dear God, placed in inferior living conditions, in poverty, in the suburbs and slums, with lower wages. Lord, we also remember religious racism in Brazil — the persecution of the faithful in African-based religions whose leaders are mostly formed by women.

God of Hagar, Tamar, and so many Black women who were supported and encouraged in Your love and mercy, we also want to praise You and give thanks for the Black Christian women in Brazil who have made a difference, acting on behalf of their faith, for the transformation of this cruel reality. We are grateful that they commit their lives to resisting racism and fighting for justice and equality, including within churches.

In Jesus Christ, born of a woman, we bring before You Lord, Black women of Methodist roots, representing all Christians who have worked for racial and gender justice: Marília Schüller, who served for 14 years in the World Council of Churches' projects to overcome racism and continues in action; Diná da Silva Branchini, Keila Guimarães and Maria da Fé Vianna in their efforts for affirmative action; Pastors Maria do Carmo Kaká Lima and Eliad Santos and theologian Lídia Maria de Lima committed to doing theology under the eyes of Black women. These women represent Methodists and those of other churches. We give You thanks for all of them, Lord!

Please, sustain the strength of these women and of all those who follow in their steps — women and men in the pilgrimage for justice and peace. Amen!

*Dr. Magali do Nascimento Cunha
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Aryane Vilarim, Pexels



Day 5 *Canada: Psalm 146*



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Almighty God, we come to You with thankful hearts. We praise You for who You are. You have kept us. Your hand has been with us. When evil people would seek our destruction, Lord, You have preserved us.

Merciful God, there are so many injustices in the world. We are reviled because of the color of our skin. We are assailed because we are women. Those in power in our governments seem to seek ways every day to subjugate us. But, God, You have been our help throughout the ages. We cry out to You to save us. You uphold the cause of the oppressed. You, Lord, lift up those who are bowed down. You love the righteous. You watch over the foreigner and sustain the fatherless and the widow. Thank You for not letting our enemies defeat us. God, You are our help. You frustrate the ways of the wicked.

We are created in Your image. You love us with an unfailing love. You are not biased in any way, and You love us all, have gifted us all, have called us all to be Your witnesses in the world. Help those who seek to take away our liberties, those who seek to oppress us, those who feel that they are somehow superior to us. Your word says that “whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did.” (1 John 2:6)

Jesus came alongside the oppressed and the marginalized. Jesus treated people with equity. Open the eyes of those that practice gendered racism. Turn their stony hearts to flesh. As women of color make their way in the world, transform minds that distort Your truth. Help those who harm us, intentionally or not, to see our humanity and to treat us in ways that affirm our equality and our worth.

In the mighty and matchless name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

*Dr. Rhonda Y. Britton
Senior Pastor
New Horizons Baptist Church
Halifax, Nova Scotia*



Day 6 *Genesis 1:27*

Creator God who created us in Your image and likeness. God of Hagar, Miriam, and Makeda, we thank You for the sacred worth and value of every person You have made. We appreciate the gift of human life and rejoice in knowing that You have crowned us with dignity and honor as female and male.

Our hearts are burdened by the prevalence of perceptions that result in prejudice, stereotyping, and character diagnosis toward women. We are grieved by the countless ways that Black women and women of color experience the burden of gendered racism and how it affects their ability to thrive and flourish.

We pray for an end to gendered racism. We pray for an end to sexism, prejudice, and stereotyping of women on the basis of gender. We pray for an end to sexism, bias, and discrimination against women in pulpits, boardrooms, corporations, C-Suites, institutions of higher learning, government, armed forces, and church pews throughout the world!

Help us to recognize and stand against every form of oppression, especially oppression that occurs due to race and gender. Raise up allies who will stand with us and advocate for us. Grant that all may recognize women as equal partners in creation. By the power of Your Holy Spirit empower women to succeed, thrive, and prosper in the home,

in government, in education, in business, in the arts, in medicine, in entertainment, in the hierarchies of churches, temples, mosques, synagogues, and all other places of worship and in every sphere of life. Provide safety and protection, O Holy One, and inspire just laws against all forms of violence and injustice against women.

Thank You for Jesus, our liberating Savior and Lord, who was a friend to women, healer of women, and protector of women. Thank You for Jesus who, in a society that considered women as property, called us daughters of Abraham, naming us equal to men in our relationship with God.

Show Your glory by restoring gender equity for women and girls in Your earth and in Your kingdom — where all are valued, where the marginalized are welcome, where there is no injustice, and where all are co-heirs with Christ because there is room for ALL at Your table — be established on earth as it is in heaven.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

*Dr. Gina M. Stewart, President
Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention
Senior Pastor, Christ Missionary Baptist Church
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Day 7 *Chile: Romans 8:31*

Dear God of justice, hear our prayer:
We recognize You as the Lord of justice and mercy.
We praise You for who You are, especially for Your constant presence in our lives, which gives us hope in the midst of an unjust world. We come to You, as the imperfect body of Christ, to ask for guidance, courage, and strength as we seek to stand firm against the oppression that is happening in Chile.

These days are not easy for anybody here — especially our women. Dear Lord, we see our women suffering because their rights are not recognized.

Every day they must wake up early and get a number to see if a doctor will see them or their children later in the week.

Every day they must work more than a man, to prove that they can. Yet at the end of the month their salary is a lot less than their colleagues.

Every day elderly women are neglected by their family and the law and often beaten, or ignored.

Every day little girls are forced into child labor or left to beg in the

streets and are ignored by their families.

And, O Lord, every day we experience in church life how we are mistreated just because we are not men.

It is sad to see that in many churches we are only allowed to help in the kitchen and in no way can we serve during the worship service.

O Lord, we cry out to You to help us raise our daughters so they will know the value they have because they were created in Your image. Help us to teach them not to let their story be a repetition of our sufferings.

Restore Your creation, dear Lord, because we are valuable in Your sight. Show Your glory through restoring gender equity for women and girls in our country.

We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Dr. Raquel Contreras

Director

Baptist Spanish Publishing House

El Paso, Texas

cottonbro, Pexels



Day 8 Croatia: John 12:37-43



Lan Yao, Pexels

Dumb-silenced first and then violently shut up by the cross — so that the world trembles for fear of those who have done it to You — that’s how religion treated You, Jesus.

The many signs testifying to Your divinity didn’t matter. The authorities and their alleged acceptance of You as a teacher that came from God (John 3:2) didn’t matter.

What mattered and always matters in these systems is the glory of self-proclaimed human gods.

But Your resurrection is a silence which provides the victims with a place to stand and demand justice.

We pray, Lord, for our sisters caught in the pain at the intersections of the structural injustices of both race and gender — where they suffer a thousand voiceless pains and deaths.

We pray as a church. We do not seek human glory, such as wealth or status, nor do we forsake our faith for fear. Rather, as children of

the resurrection, let’s open resurrection spaces for justice in word and deed. Free the captives who are dumb-silenced and those who are seduced and reduced to slogans about some unjust faith.

We pray that the power of resurrection may bring everyone true shalom.

*Dr. Ksenija Magda
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Former President of the Baptist World Alliance Women’s Department,
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(Inspired by “Keeping God’s Silence: Towards a Theological Ethics of Communication” by Rachel Muers.)



Day 9 *Democratic Republic of the Congo: Psalm 18:6-9, 14*

O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is Your name. Lord, we cry out to You today on behalf of Your daughters in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Our hearts hurt for them as they confront deep troubles and distress. Lord, Your daughters face unrelenting oppression from every side based on their gender. They are passed over, walked by, and dismissed as if their very existence is sin. They are subjected to ridicule, rape, sexual slavery, trafficking, unwanted marriages, and pregnancies. Father, deliver Your daughters from unwarranted violence, sexual exploitation, and abuse.

Lord, we ask that You dismantle corrupt entities and activities on every level and expose every dishonest practitioner. Lord, place a levy on the hearts of every offender and give them an overwhelming sensitivity to the abuse and harm they bring to Your daughters. Lord, heal every perpetrator in their innermost places and strengthen them to rise up and become protectors and advocates of change for Your daughters.

Lord, You said in Your word that when we call on You in our distress, You hear us. You said that the earth will tremble and the foundations will shake because of Your anger; that You will come from heaven and scatter the enemy.

Thank You for rescuing Your daughters, O great and merciful God. Thank You for the advocates, mentors, programs, and program funding You are sending to break the chains of every educational, sexual, and gender-based barrier against Your daughters. Lord, thank You for giving Your daughters peace that surpasses all understanding; hope that heals every hurt; and resilience. We will glorify You forever in Jesus' name. Amen.

*Pastor M. Queeni Green
Senior Pastor
Rivers of Life
Freehold, New Jersey*



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Day 10 Ethiopia: Psalm 68:31

Ancient of Days, we remember the tradition of our African diasporic ancestors, who in times of severe oppression invoked the promise of scripture that Ethiopia would soon stretch forth her hands to God, that prayers would go forth from those who bear the image of God in darker hue. In these tumultuous times, we lift our hands in prayer on behalf of Ethiopia.

Even as we pray, we bear in mind that prayers in Jesus' name have been prayed continuously from ancient times and continue in the churches of Coptic Christianity. Thus, we join our prayers with those of our siblings who offer petitions in Your name and make intercession.

All Seeing One, look with mercy upon our siblings, who live with active conflict and on the brink of civil war. See, we pray, the most vulnerable, the women, elders, and children who always bear witness in their bodies to the brutality of war-making.

Hear the cries and anguish of those subjected to radicalized and sexualized violence. Restore hope and feeling to those in deep pain. Give beauty for ashes and gladness for sorrow. Mend broken hearts and bodies for individuals and communities.

In Ethiopia and throughout the world, we pray for the coming of Your peace. In Ethiopia and throughout the world, may we see and celebrate kinship.

In the name of Jesus Christ, through whom You have brought down the dividing walls among people. Amen.

*Dr. Leslie Callahan
Pastor
St. Paul Baptist Church
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*

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Day 11 *Ghana: Micah 6:8*

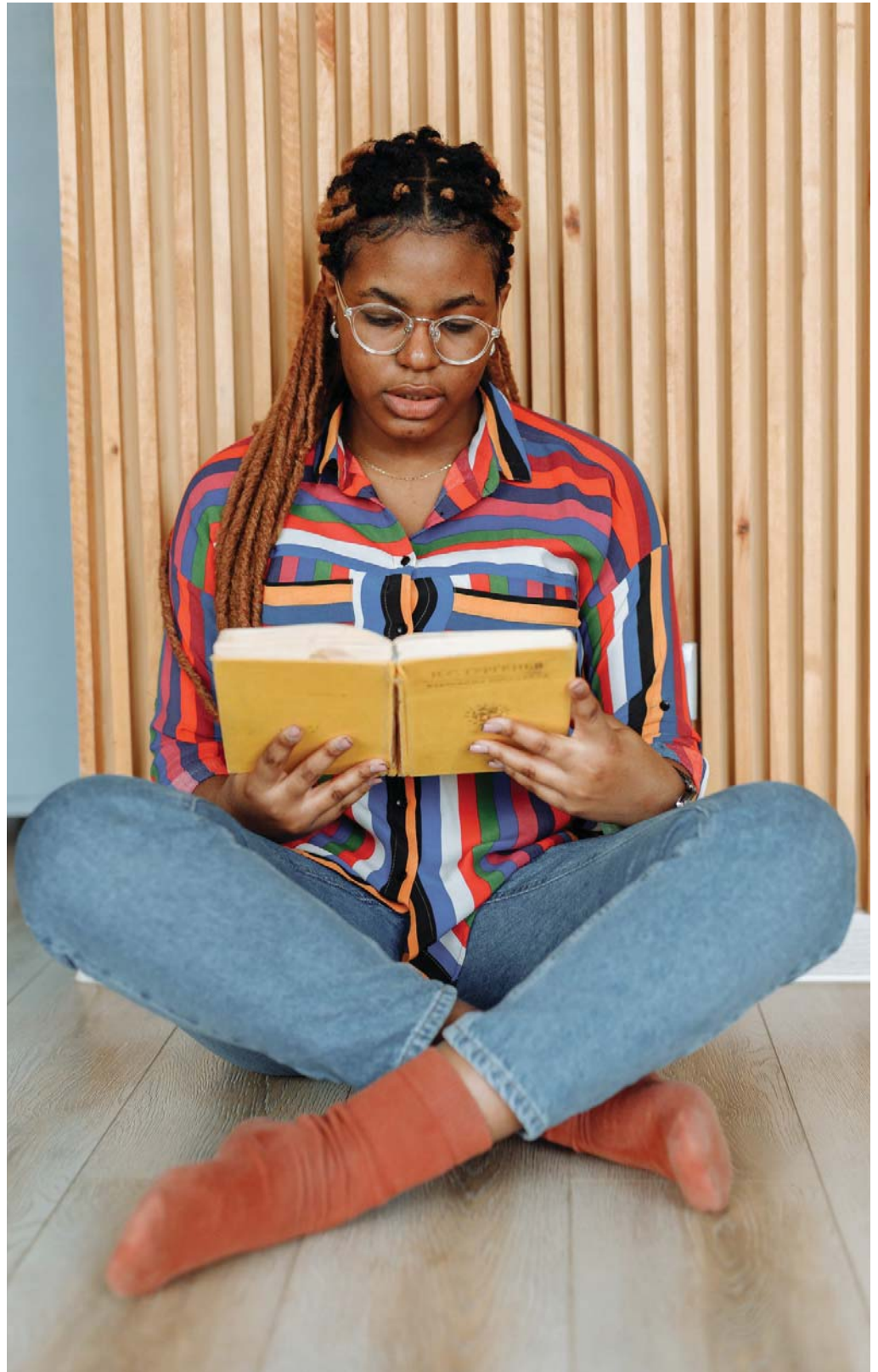
Lord, it is Your daughter calling out on behalf of Your daughters and sons of Ghana. I ask You to protect, provide and heal those forgotten by too many and whose scars have been overlooked for far too long. May young girls and grown women know that they are loved and that real love does not hurt. You, God, created them all beautiful and revered. Each sister and brother is worthy. They are Yours. Every shade and every hue are Your handiwork. May we treat everyone as precious in Your sight.

Strong God, tear down every thought, tradition, and policy that lifts up patriarchy and racism. Begin with Your church. May the church bear witness to a love that heals and builds up, that hears and restores, that transforms and delivers. May Your church show up as truth tellers and grace givers. May Your children show up as protectors and providers. Bring conviction for every person who has brought harm to Your daughters or sons, and bring change that goes beyond the surface.

Lord, I ask that You give Ghana strength to love one another as You love. Give Ghana the courage to stand up for right relationship and cast down every evil thought against it.

In our Christ the Savior's gracious name I pray. Amen.

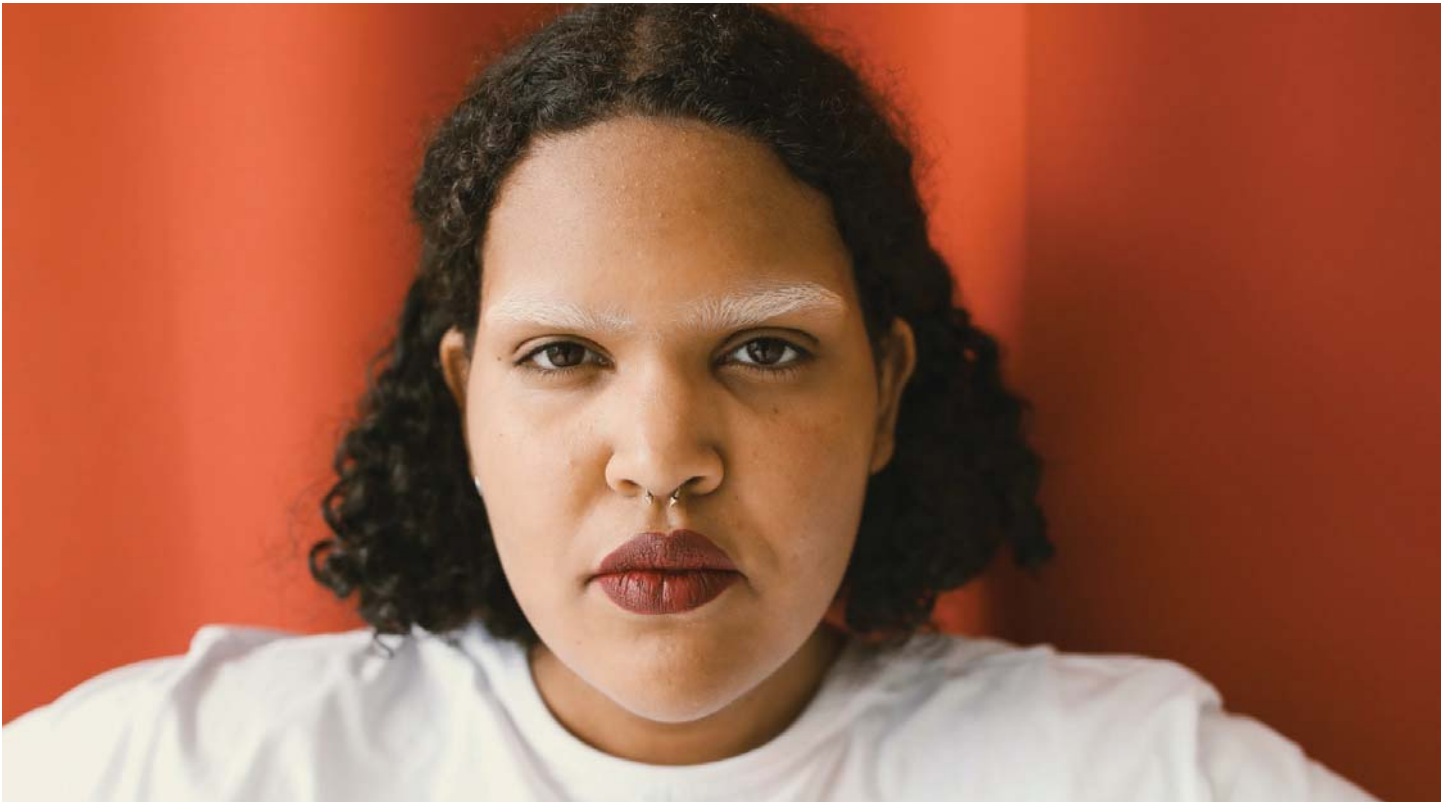
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Day 12 *Guyana: Psalm 119:105-107*



Polina Tankilevitch, Pixels

Loving God, we Your children come before You in prayer. We glorify You and thank You for our lives and for the many blessings You have bestowed on the nation of Guyana and this entire global village. Gracious God, we ask You for forgiveness for the times when we have failed to thank You, for when we complained over irrelevant things rather than expressing our gratitude to You for Your grace, tender mercies, and ever-abiding presence. Forgive us, Holy One, for taking Your unconditional love for granted.

Omnipresent God, we the women of Guyana Missionary Baptist Church WINGS (Women in God's Service) join with the women of Lott Carey WISE (Women In Service Everywhere) in prayer. We thank You for the privilege to gather around Your glorious throne to pray for the women of Guyana and for women around the world. Lord we are begging You for a revival — a revival that will sweep through the nations and bring us to the realization that You call us to love You and our neighbors as ourselves.

Omniscient God, You know all things and there is nothing hidden from You. We ask for Your divine intervention as we bring this supplication to You to end gender-based racism in Guyana. Lord, gender-based racism is affecting persons negatively, especially Amerindian and African Guyanese women. We especially ask You for deliverance of Guyanese victims who are dependent on others economically or are not employed. Lord we plead their cases and decree deliverance by the blood of the lamb, Jesus the Christ. I ask You God for Your divine intervention to bring comfort to those who are hurting because of this form of oppression today. Gracious God, You have always made a way

for Amerindian and African-Guyanese women of this nation. Use our spiritual leaders and the Christian community to do greater works of service among these women; help them through the power of Your Word to divinely educate the uneducated. Move by the power of Your Holy Spirit and dispel false perceptions that people hold. Mighty God, open people's eyes so they can see the ills of stereotyping.

Liberating God, please work through the women in Guyana, providing them with the opportunities to have access to free and low-cost educational programs. Make these opportunities readily available within all our communities so that disenfranchised women can have the needed economic independence to take care of their personal and family needs. I pray that our women will be empowered to become agents of change so that they can help the younger and aging women in their families, communities, churches, and the nation. Omnipotent God, we ask for Your divine intervention, as we bring these supplications to You. We know there is nothing too hard for You to do. Your word promises that the earnest fervent prayers of a righteous person avails much. Therefore, we ask You to bind the spirit of gender-based racism and all other evils in our nation. We ask all these things with thanksgiving in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Deacon Donnette Daniels-Franco
President*

*Guyana Missionary Baptist Church-Lott Carey Women's Council
Georgetown, Guyana*



Day 13 *Matthew 14:21*



Jackson David, Pixels

Lord God, we are grateful that we are fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:14) in Your image and likeness. We are grateful that we are the children of the Most High God. We are grateful that we are Yours and You are ours. We are grateful that You know us, You see us, and You hear us when we pray.

God, we lift this prayer for the women and children who are mentioned but are still not being counted. We lift this prayer for the women who are given positions without power, for those who are in the room but whose voices are not valued, and especially for those who seem invisible by structures designed to maintain a hierarchy of divisiveness. God, help us recognize the value in what You have created and called good.

We reject the stereotypes that suggest females are fiends and the images that perpetuate women as weak. We reject the boxes that have been created to sustain oppression and stigmatize strength. We declare that in Christ there is no box big enough to minimize movement or prevent possibility. We honor the uniqueness of every life and the significance of every breath.

We pray that in the midst of our most challenging circumstances,

we are ever reminded that Your presence, Your provision and Your power is more than enough. Thank You for equipping us by healing our physical wounds, releasing us from the emotional scars of abuse, and for dismantling the spiritual strongholds of sexism in our cities, in our communities, and in our houses of worship.

We thank You in advance for sacred spaces being created to empower Women in Service Everywhere. Thank You for helping us to honor the dignity of every human being.

We declare we are strong; we are unstoppable; we are adaptable; we are the embodiment of unlimited potential and possibilities; we are whole; we are healed; we are loved; and we are worthy to be counted!

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory! Forever!
Amen!

Dr. LaKeesha Walrond
President
New York Theological Seminary
New York, New York



Day 14 Haiti: Genesis 1:26-27

Our Father and our God, in Your majesty You created the universe, the heavens, and the earth. In Your wisdom You created all that dwells within. In Your image and in Your love You created humankind. We, Your people, magnify You and praise You for Your marvelous works.

Through sin, oppression and injustice have entered Your world. The union and equality You desire between men and women have been dismantled. Gendered racism and other systems of oppression which marginalize women seem to be pervasive in our world. In Your eyes, O God, we are all equal and loved. Jesus, You gave Your life that we may all have freedom from sin and oppression.

Father, in this moment we come to You on one accord, joining our faith together as we pray that the physical, emotional, and spiritual strongholds of gendered racism be broken, pushed back, and destroyed.

For Haiti, we pray that the concept of “a woman’s place” will be torn down. We pray, Father, that we will move outside of the limited ideas and expectations for women young and old. In Your name Jesus, we see visions of young women being elevated in our society to a place of value and esteem. We proclaim the younger generations of Haitian women to be great leaders alongside their male counterparts equally. May our churches be the forerunners of this vision. May we forever work to serve and please You and to show Your glory in the earth for now and forever.

In the name of Jesus. Amen.

*Linotte Joseph
Founder/CEO
Mission of Grace
Greenacres, Florida*



Betty Ward, Pixabay



Day 15 *India: Isaiah 43:2, 4*



evelindm, Pixabay

Dear Lord and Heavenly Father,
 I lift up my eyes and cry for help.
 On bended knee I plead.
 Give ear, my Lord, to my anxious thoughts.
 Can You see me, Lord? Do You know my name?
 I am alone and afraid.
 My safe haven from contagion, my private space, my dwelling place
 Is a zone of chaos, overwork and constant fatigue —
 Forced into the walls of domesticity
 With new roles as full-time cook, household help, cleaner, teacher.
 My home, my husband, my in-laws, my children —
 I am their target for dominance, violence, unpaid labor.
 I love them, O Lord, but I am not able to be loving toward them.
 My workplace was my refuge, my source of worth and value.
 But because of webinars and video conferences at all times of the day
 and night;
 Pressure from superiors; irregular work schedules;
 pay cuts; and potential redundancy;
 Today, I seek refuge from my refuge!
 How much more can I bear?
 I'm just an ordinary woman.
 I feel weak, and tired and misunderstood.
 This burden seems too heavy, Lord
 Help me, I plead.
 Can You see me, Lord? Do You know my name?

I am Rekha and Tara and Jaya and Seema
 Lord, You are strength in weakness and hope in despair.
 I claim Your promise today, I and all my sisters with me,
 “Do not fear, for I have redeemed You;
 I have called You by name; You are mine.
 When You pass through the waters,
 I will be with You;
 and when You pass through the rivers,
 they will not sweep over You.
 When You walk through the fire,
 You will not be burned;
 the flames will not set You ablaze...
 Since You are precious and honored in my sight,
 and because I love You.” (Isaiah 43:2, 4)
 O Lord, in Your Word we trust.
 Redeem us, we pray.
 In Jesus’ name.
 Amen.

*Esther Mani
 Principal
 Somerville School
 Vasundhara Enclave
 Delhi, India*



Day 16 *Italy: Psalm 31:14-15*

In Italy, during the lockdown period imposed last spring to contain the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic, there was an alarming growth in the violence against women, a transversal phenomenon that affects women regardless of age, social class, grade of education and nationality. To counter the virus, the call was, and still is, to stay at home. But for many women the home has not been, and is not, a refuge but a dangerous place of suffering. At home, women are victims of not only physical but psychological violence, which does not allow a woman to adequately express her personality and desires.

Our God, hear the cry of all women, who ask to be freed from the hand of the enemy and from those who pursue them.

We pray that the churches be vigilant and recognize, even internally, situations in which women, from the youngest to the oldest, suffer violence and are in danger.

We pray that the churches denounce sick relationships in which there is oppression and lift up relationships of love that are fed on mutual respect and care.

O Lord, grant that the churches can denounce the gender-based discrimination and social norms and gender stereotypes that perpetuate such violence.

Grant that the churches can support the victims with listening, prayer, and closeness.

We pray also for the government to encourage anti-violence centers

and promote initiatives to combat violence, raise awareness, and focus on prevention and training.

We trust in you, O Lord,

You are our God!

Amen.

Marta D'Auria

Journalist, Member of Executive Committee

Christian Evangelical Baptist Union of Italy

Naples, Italy



Day 17 *Jamaica: Jeremiah 33:3*



Angela Roma, Pexels

Sovereign ever-present God, the one and only living God! Creator of everything visible and invisible! We come boldly before Your presence for women, young adults, and girls filled with possibilities of brilliance and greatness in the nation of Jamaica.

We thank You for their strength and unwavering resilience in pursuing their God-given dreams and visions for their island and their children. May these girls and women who You called before they were conceived in their mother's wombs tap into the resolve to forge against all "isms" that are structured to bind and subjugate them to stereotypical roles. May they revel in the knowledge that their gender, their color, and their race were created in the image of God.

God, may young girls have access to resources to demonstrate their brilliance in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) careers that support the government of Jamaica's Vision 2030. May they use their inquisitiveness, creativity, and their faith in You to succeed in any profession.

God, cover our sisters who may feel voiceless and are living in pain. Surround them with dedicated women in their churches and communities who may provide wise counsel and help them to cultivate sustaining and strong relationships.

May those in the most rural parishes and towns be encouraged by the example of daughters of the nation who have become ambassadors, CEOs, Olympians, and entrepreneurs. May they know it is never too late to accomplish their aspirations. As they call upon You, may You reveal to them great and unsearchable things they do not know.

May Your peace and joy which surpass our understanding keep these women and girls spiritually grounded, emotionally sound, and physically healthy with hope for the future. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

*Dr. Sheila A. Gipson
Associate Pastor, Worship & Missional Life
First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens
Somerset, New Jersey*



Day 18 *Kenya: Galatians 3:28-29*



George Jr Kamau, Pexels

How long? O Lord, You know.
How long will the oppressive systems against women and others go on?
When will all people, regardless of gender, abilities, or class, truly become one? (Galatians 3:28-29)
For still the vision awaits its appointed time. It seems slow, but we wait for it.

When will its time be, that You our Lord may hasten it? (Isaiah 60:22)

Of the many 'thorns' we have, this thorn hurts immensely. We have prayed, countless times, that You, our God, may remove it. If it had been our way, we would have removed it. However, as we let our requests be made known to You God, we pray as Jesus did, "... Nevertheless, not my will, but Yours, be done." (Luke 22:42)

God, You never promised that it would be easy. We have prayed and continue to pray; and it seems that You are silent, our God. As we wonder, "How long?" God, You know.

We will not try to think of the entire duration. It may be too much for us to bear. We will just wait for this moment. Then the next will come, bit by bit, with grace sufficient for each moment. It will be worth it, God, according to Your way, will, grace and timing.

*Rev. Dawn Gikandi
Church Minister
Presbyterian Church of East Africa
Nairobi, Kenya*



Day 19 *Liberia: Jeremiah 22:3*



Albrecht Fietz, Pixabay

Dear God, creator of the universe, the I Am, the Alpha and Omega. You are great, good, awesome and marvelous; there is no one who can be compared to You. Thank You God for life and everything that we go through, good and bad. Thank You because everything that You do has a plan and a purpose.

In a special way, I want to commit all who are going through any form of oppression; most especially the women of Liberia. Father God, there are women who are still being marginalized and violated in their homes and at the workplace; there are wives who are still being oppressed because of traditional practices; and there are women and girls out there who are still being abused and mistreated. Women and girls are being raped. All-knowing and All-powerful God, I beseech You to please have mercy and intervene. I pray for men and women who will stand up to rescue the oppressed in the land. I pray, O God, that You

will manifest Your power among and in the lives of Your people. I pray that You will raise up a standard against anything that is oppressing Your people. I pray that You will rise up and glorify Yourself in the situations confronting Your people.

Scripture reminds us that You are the God of justice; rain down justice on behalf of Your daughters in Jesus' name. Restore to Your people the dignity and honor that You have destined for them. And may Your Spirit renew our trust and confidence in You always. In Jesus' name. Amen.

*Rev. Monen Jacquelynn Duoe
Associate Pastor
Effort Baptist Church
Paynesville, Liberia*



Day 20 *Isaiah 53*



Holy and Righteous God,
The One in whose image we are created,
The One who has knitted our beings,
The One who has called and shaped us,
The One who is the pioneer and perfecter of our faith,
Hear our prayer for Your discerning strength,
Resilience, and confidence to live fully
Just as You have called us — Your daughters,
Worthy of Your inheritance
And full of Your promise.

We call out and cast down
the violent and insidious objectives
of gendered racism, Which seek to abolish and disrupt
Our self-conception, aspirations, and confidence from the inside,
While attempting to demolish and interrupt
Our prosperity, families, and safety from the outside.

We rebuke and stand against all
Policies and doctrines,
Practices and traditions,
Words and beliefs
That deny our full humanity
And Your Divine purpose for us

Through human created systems of perpetual
Inequity, sexism, discrimination, and prejudice,
Bias, ignorance, racism, and injustice.

We renounce and combat the
Centuries of lies that affect our daily lives
And the constant barrage of discrimination and misogyny,
That bruises our dreams,
And blackens our eyes.

Please continue to remind us...
We are not less because of our gender,
We are not less because of our skin,
We are not less because of our ancestry,
We are not less because of our kin.

We are worthy. We are beautiful.
We are powerful. We are enough.
We are Your daughters.

Amen.

*Dr. TaNikka Sheppard
President of Baptist Women of North America
Executive Pastor
The Fountain Church
Miami Gardens, Florida*

Angela Roma, Pexels



Day 21 *Malawi: Psalm 139:13*



erinbetzk, Pixabay

God our Creator, who has fearfully and wonderfully made each of Your daughters in Your image, we humbly bow before You in prayer on behalf of our sisters in Malawi. We are so grateful for the privilege to enter into Your presence through this time of prayer. Your Word tells us to ask, and it shall be given. Lord, we are asking that the strongholds that limit our sisters be broken. We know that You are a God that can do anything but fail. We are believing while waiting with expectation for the signs of Your miracles.

God, we know that You are a God of justice and righteousness, so we cry out against systemic oppression and abusive relationships that prevent our sisters from walking in their purpose and position of power. We pray that You bind gender inequality that causes young girls to be forced into child bride marriages that expose them to unnecessary health risks by revoking agency over their own bodies. We pray that You strengthen and empower young women to rise up against unjust

systems that seek to keep them in places of inferiority. O gracious God, empower our sisters with courage to make a change within their homes, churches, and communities. Help our sisters to create a new narrative that speaks victory over disrespect, that creates new norms where women are treated as equals and viewed as valuable in their country.

Gracious God, we humbly offer this prayer for our sisters believing that gender inequality will be eradicated in Malawi. In the precious name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, we pray. Amen.

*Dr. LaKeeyna Cooper
Director of Missions and Program Engagement
General Baptist State Convention of NC
Spring Creek Baptist Church
Moseley, Virginia*



Day 22 Mozambique: Psalm 44:1-8



Muhammadata Ibrahim M'aji, Pexels

Heavenly Father, we come in the precious name of Jesus, our Savior, Lord, and Creator, who is all sufficient, all powerful, and sovereign. We come on behalf of the women of Mozambique who are in dire straits experiencing the physical, emotional, and spiritual strongholds of gendered racism. Father, we pray that You give them strength and courage. Empower them to be strong and courageous like Joshua, and be unafraid to face the enemy that encompasses round about them as they strive to survive and serve their children and their families. They have been created in Your image and are fearfully and wonderfully made. God, we know that You can free Your daughters from all powers and strongholds that have been designed to ensnare, enslave, and destroy them.

Move by Your spirit upon the hearts of government officials and civic leaders to facilitate justice. Enable them to see Your daughters as

You see them. Stir up the gifts and spirits of Your servants everywhere to arise and fight to eliminate gendered racism.

You are our king. It is through You that we can push back the enemy of racism and gender inequality. We do not trust in our own strength or weapons, but it is You who gives us victory over our enemies. You put our adversaries to shame. Father we ask in Jesus' name, "to decree victories for Jacob." It is in You we make our boast and will praise Your name forever. It is in the mighty and majestic and strong name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

*Dr. Joyce McDonald
Associate Minister
Fountain Baptist Church
Summit, New Jersey*



Day 23 Nigeria: 1 Peter 5:6-10

Precious Lord, God Almighty, our Father; gracious provider of unconditional love, grace, mercy. Thank You for Your plan to give all Your children hope and a future. We praise You for the gift of intercessory prayer and the open door to come to You as we continue to agree with our believing partners in Nigeria, seeking the protection and deliverance of victims from the pain and oppression of gender-based violence.

Since this prayer and advocacy partnership began 10 years ago, we have seen You move on the hearts of some leaders. Thank You, Lord. While there remains some wording in the Nigerian Constitution that allows some forms of domestic abuse, we have witnessed some advancement in Nigeria's laws. The Violence Against Person (Prohibition) Act of 2015 has been a tool in the arsenal of advocates against violence when victims are not too ashamed or afraid to complain and when law enforcement takes such complaints seriously. Father, we ask that You continue Your divine intervention.

Inhumane acts of violence — beatings, slashings, shootings, chokings, rapes, acid baths, other tortures and killings — are on the rise around the world and are particularly prevalent in certain regions of Nigeria. These abusive acts are contrary to Your character, Lord; it grieves You to see the scars and hear the cries of any victim of violence. Each of us should be likewise grieved. We ask Your forgiveness, dear Lord, for those occasions when we have been so busy with our personal concerns that we have forgotten to pray regarding the plight of oppression and suffering others are living with. Please open the eyes of our hearts to see and do our part to promote the transformation of the mindset of abusers and improve the quality of life for abuse victims, the majority of whom are women and girls.

As the name of Jesus is above all mistreatment and violence, we stand boldly against the lies of gender stereotypes, and rebuke the social and cultural norms that too frequently suppress or ignore complaints. We praise You, Heavenly Father, for providing peace, comfort, healing, and restoration to these victims, in the name of Jesus. Additionally, we claim that You will be glorified, Lord, as former victims come to know that these reforms and blessings have come to them from the only true and living God. Amen.

*Carol Mohammad
President Emeritus of WISE
Rodman Street Missionary Baptist Church
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania*



Day 24 *Palestine: Genesis 5:2*



ZouZou, Shutterstock

Only love can end gender racism and restore the dignity of women

Merciful Creator, even though November 25 has been recognized as the International Day for the elimination of violence against women (UN General Assembly 1999 in honor of the three Dominican Mirabal Sisters assassinated in 1960), Palestine/Israel — the land intended to be a model of harmonious and peaceful living has not been spared from oppressive systems of military occupation and unjust laws — patriarchal rules, domestic violence, extreme religious fundamentalism, and inequity in social traditions that have all contributed to demeaning and dehumanizing the women You created as equal helpers to men.

Loving Father, Mother,

Gender racism persists. Young girls and women still suffer from physical, emotional, and spiritual abuse. The most vulnerable young girls and women, raped by family members and killed for “honor,” cry out to You.

Let Your Spirit guide those who think they are superior and forget

that we are all children of God, created lovingly in the same image. Inspire those in power to apply laws with accountability upon all those who dare torment, torture, and silence anyone who rightfully demands rights outside the accepted box of one’s conviction or tradition.

Loving Creator, a return to the humanity You intended us to be part of is the answer to eliminate hatred, revenge, and gender racism and allow Your beautiful creation to flourish. Together, we can then spread Your unconditional love that will liberate the oppressed and the oppressor. In our Savior’s name we ask You to help us to do Your will and restore the dignity of each human being.

Nora Arsenian Carmi

Armenian Apostolic Church

Middle East Representative for World Day of Prayer International

Pax Christi International Board member

Jerusalem, Palestine



Day 25 *Philippines: 2 Corinthians 10:5*



Nashua Volquez-Young, Pexels

Our God, who is giver of life and sustainer of the same:
We lift our prayers to You on behalf of the women in the Philippines. We use this prayer to come against gendered racism, oppression, stereotypes, systemic evil, and all manner of wickedness that seeks to lay hold of our people.

We petition Your throne of grace, asking that Your liberating power be at work in the lives of Filipino women. Set them free physically that they may experience life more abundantly. Set them free in their minds that they might serve You free of psychological strongholds. Liberate their hearts so that they might experience the love of Christ that heals the brokenhearted.

God, destroy the yoke of bondage that burdens the Filipino women; rebuke the devourer, and remove the veils over the minds of those who have been blinded by lies and deception. Empower them to take every

thought captive and make it obedient to Christ.

You are the God who frees the oppressed and sets the captive free. You are a restorer of life. You give sight back to the blind. You make the lame walk and the mute speak.

There is nothing too hard for You. You are a deliverer. You are a way-maker, and You are our God. We thank You for being a present help and near us when we pray. This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to God's will, God hears us. Amen.

*Rev. Dr. Stacy Dandridge
Associate Minister/Director of Media
Christ Missionary Baptist Church
Memphis, Tennessee*



Day 26 South Africa: Judges 4:5



RF_studio, Pexels

God created women and men as equal, both called to offer their gifts to the world, to shine and offer their abundance of gifts. Deborah's leadership as a judge in Israel reflects that God does not regard women's political leadership as problematic. But the world continues to oppress and abuse women. South Africa is still a patriarchal society. Within the past and the current history, women have faced their own challenges in the country as well as in the church. Inequality exists in the church as well as in the marketplace. Sexism is real and rampant. Church hierarchy demotes women to second-class status governed by patriarchal structures. The dawn of democracy has given hope that bring about equality for all. However, recently South Africa has witnessed with great shock the sudden rise in the cases of women abuse and femicide. I am inviting our sisters to join us in prayer for my beloved country.

"Lord, there is no one like you to help the powerless against the mighty. Help us, Lord our God, for we rely on you, and in your name we have come against this vast army. Lord, you are our God; do not let man prevail against you." (2 Chronicles 14:11 NIV)

Heavenly Father, we come before Your throne of grace with gratitude in our hearts. You created men and women as equal, calling them to offer their gifts to the world. We plead for mercy for the women in South Africa and the world. We lament for those who live as captives, and those who are ill-treated (Hebrews 13:3). Women are exploited and murdered in their own homes. Women continue to face sexual

harassment at their places of work and in institutions of learning. Women are excluded from decision-making in social structures of communities including the churches, which are supposed to bring liberation and healing.

Dear Lord, we pray that there will be a change in the families, the communities, churches, and political structures to allow women to receive the liberty that the Son of God died to make available for all. May the women in our nation stand out like Deborah (Judges 4:5), and rise to leadership positions without fear of prejudice. Strengthen all women including those in strategic position to overcome all these challenges. We pray also for unity of all women to stand together against the everyday evils.

We pray for a restored sense of worth, healing from chronic feelings of guilt, an end to a distorted image of God, and healing for those who experience depression. We pray for the divine protection of women from the lawless men. May Your Holy Spirit continue to fill, anoint, and use women in Your mission. We pray, trusting in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.

*Mrs. Sylvia Thantsha
President, Women's Department
Baptist Convention of South Africa
Gauteng, South Africa*



Day 27 *Revelation 21:1-5*



Christina Morillo, Pixels

Sovereign God, Mother of all creation, we are gratified that You hear us when we pray. You are always available to us no matter our circumstances or concerns. Systems of patriarchy, chauvinism, and misogyny reveal our great need for Your direction and deliverance.

Hear our prayer, O God.

In Your divine economy and ecosystem, You have done away with difference, division, and discrimination. You have promised a new heaven and a new earth where oppression will no longer exist. You have promised a radical newness; there will be no oppression for the least and left out among humanity. Receive now our entreaty on behalf of women everywhere who are physically, emotionally, and spiritually oppressed because of gender and/or race.

We pray for women who bear the mental, emotional, and physical scars that just being female make possible. You created both male and female, different but not unequal or inferior. We pray that You would permanently remove all strongholds (human and systemic) that discriminate and separate on the basis of gender. We come to You, O God, at this moment in this season because Your daughters need Your presence and Your peace.

Hear our cry for deliverance from exploitation and sexploitation.

Hear our call for liberation from abuse, exploitation and subordination in the home, workplace, the community, and the church.

We thank You for the strength of women everywhere who have faced confidently the challenge of difference and exclusion based on gender and/or race. We thank You for women of accomplishment who make the world a brighter place to inhabit.

Thank You for women everywhere who rise to defy and who speak out despite threats to their very existence. Thank You for the courage, conviction, and confidence to move, march, and meet on behalf of those women and girls who are unable to do so. Thank You for guaranteeing a new system for relationships and governance to overcome the structures of greed and exploitation in this world. Thank You for granting us the opportunity to move toward a beloved community here on earth now.

Hear our prayer, O God. Amen.

*Dr. Carolyn Ann Knight
Preacher, Professor
Saint Philip AME Church
Atlanta, Georgia*



Day 28 *South Sudan: Jeremiah 29:11*



Cia Pak, UN Photo

In 2021, Rebecca Nyandeng De Mabior, Vice President of the Republic of South Sudan, addresses the general debate of the General Assembly's 76th session.

Our Almighty God in heaven, thank You for Your amazing power and work in our lives. Thank You for Your never-ending goodness and blessings over the women of Kenya. Thank You for continuing to bring courage to Kenyan women even through the toughest of times; continue to strengthen them.

Cast Your grace and mercies upon those women who have fallen victim to violence in abusive relationships, broken households, and defective social upbringings. Change the past and unjust mindset of men who use the force of their hands as tools to aggressively communicate their wills and emotions to vulnerable women.

Father God, replenish the strength of women courageously standing in the gap and becoming pillars of families afflicted by poverty and illness. We pray that prudence may be their portion.

We pray that You may raise a generation of prayerful women in Kenya who possess wisdom that is Spirit-led; women who will stand

their ground in the power of Your name; women who will advocate for their rights and bring Your word of truth as a weapon in times of injustice and oppression.

Today, we lift up the following pleas:

- End to gender-based violence on women in Kenya.
- Heal affected women during the COVID 19 pandemic.
- Provide empowerment initiatives for women, especially for single moms and widows.

Thank You, Lord, for being our refuge and watching over the women of Kenya. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

*Recho Rono
Women's Leader, Women's Department
Lott Carey Baptist Mission
Kericho, Kenya*



Day 29 *Sweden: John 17:21*

Thank God that in Your eyes we are, each and every one, brothers and sisters, beloved and precious.

You know us each like the hairs on Your head.

You have made us one body, one in Christ.

Thank You for the gift of what we are to each other. Help us not be afraid of others, but see and fight vulnerability and oppression.

Show us the creative ways for Your body to work. Open our eyes so that we avoid what oppresses, diminishes, and prevents the diverse endowments of the limbs from contributing to the whole.

Please, forgive us when we are infected by worldly customs and structures that divide instead of encourage unity.

You made us one, regardless of nationality, gender, or social status.

Please, forgive us for not always noticing it, even in Your church.

Please, forgive us when we do not listen to each other; forgive us when we do not stand up to disparaging words and actions. Make us aware so that we see the opportunities that the diversity of Your creation offers.

Please, forgive us when we think we are done; when, for example, we believe we have overcome the oppression of women that has existed throughout history. We are not there. Open our eyes to the many traps that exist. Give us the strength to persevere in fighting oppression of all kinds.

Let us stand up to the oppression and abuse in our world, both domestically and abroad.

Keep us from being cynical so that we endure when reports abound about cruel abuses and structures of great oppression. Give us the strength and courage to reveal and fight this because we are one. We are all one in Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Marianne Ejdersten
Director of Communication
World Council of Churches
Switzerland & Sweden*

*Prayer inspired after consultation
with my friend, Mrs. Marita Brodin,
in Sweden.*



Day 30 Zimbabwe: Deuteronomy 7:6



Albrecht Fietz, Pixabay

Dear Heavenly Father, we come before You as women and girls of Zimbabwe. We thank You for the gift of life that You have given us. It is through Your grace that we are able to exalt Your mighty name.

Father, we pray for all the women and children in Zimbabwe. Bless them Lord, as we face many challenges amid COVID-19. Life has not been easy for the women and children as they try to make ends meet. Putting food on the table, going to school, and even accessing sanitary wear has been a problem. This has caused despair in many women, and some have been susceptible to abuse by the wealthy. Father, I ask that You help us; remember us because we are suffering.

Women are human beings, yet we are not recognized in our societies as persons in our own right. We have become objects of manipulation. Those who are in power have controlled us as women. Deuteronomy 7:6 NIV reads: "For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you . . . to be his treasured possession." We

are comforted by Your Word as we face physical and spiritual manipulation in social spheres.

Lord, You are our hope in the middle of bleakness. You choose to be open for all humanity to create a vision and a chance. You have always provided a way for us where there seemed to be no way. We pray that we as women accept our importance as partners with men in God's mission. Help us to model our lives on You so that women are set free to serve and be served without loss of individuality or fear of subordination.

All this we pray in the mighty name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Rev. Revayi Chinodakufa
New Testament Lecturer
Zimbabwe Theological Seminary
Gweru, Zimbabwe*



Day 31 *Genesis 16:13*



rad fx, Shutterstock

T*his prayer is in memory of my Aunt Pat, who was murdered in July of 1990 — a victim of both racism and sexism.*

God of Heaven, God of earth, holy is Your name in all places and spaces we could ever occupy. You are the God who sees the woman hiding from her abuser. You are the God who sees Geneva Reed-Veal (Sandra Bland’s mother) in the middle of the night when the memory of her daughter is both comforting and lingering. You are the God who gave Emmett Till’s mother, Mamie, comfort and bravery in one of America’s darkest hours. You, O God, see us when others have tried to hide us.

We pray for all the unnamed mothers and women who must be courageous for themselves and others; for the Black woman who is called out of her name because she dares to be assertive. She may cry when no one is looking but she is fierce in the boardroom with her “feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace,” as

recorded in Ephesians 6:15 NIV.

We pray for all the Aunt Pats of the world; women who will face racism and sexism, and pay with their lives; women who gained their wings in heaven. The world might not have appreciated their presence, but God has always seen them as precious. God, be with us as we work to ensure that all are seen. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

I ask that this prayer be prayed on Thursdays in solidarity with the Thursdays in Black: A Campaign to End Gender Based Violence. To learn more about **THURSDAYS IN BLACK** visit: <https://www.ecumenicalwomenun.org/thursdays-in-black>

Rev. Nicolle D. Harris
Pastor
Duryee Memorial AME Zion Church
Schenectady, New York

Jehovah Jireh

Continued from page 3

dressed in black, standing in solidarity with women victimized by gender-based violence.

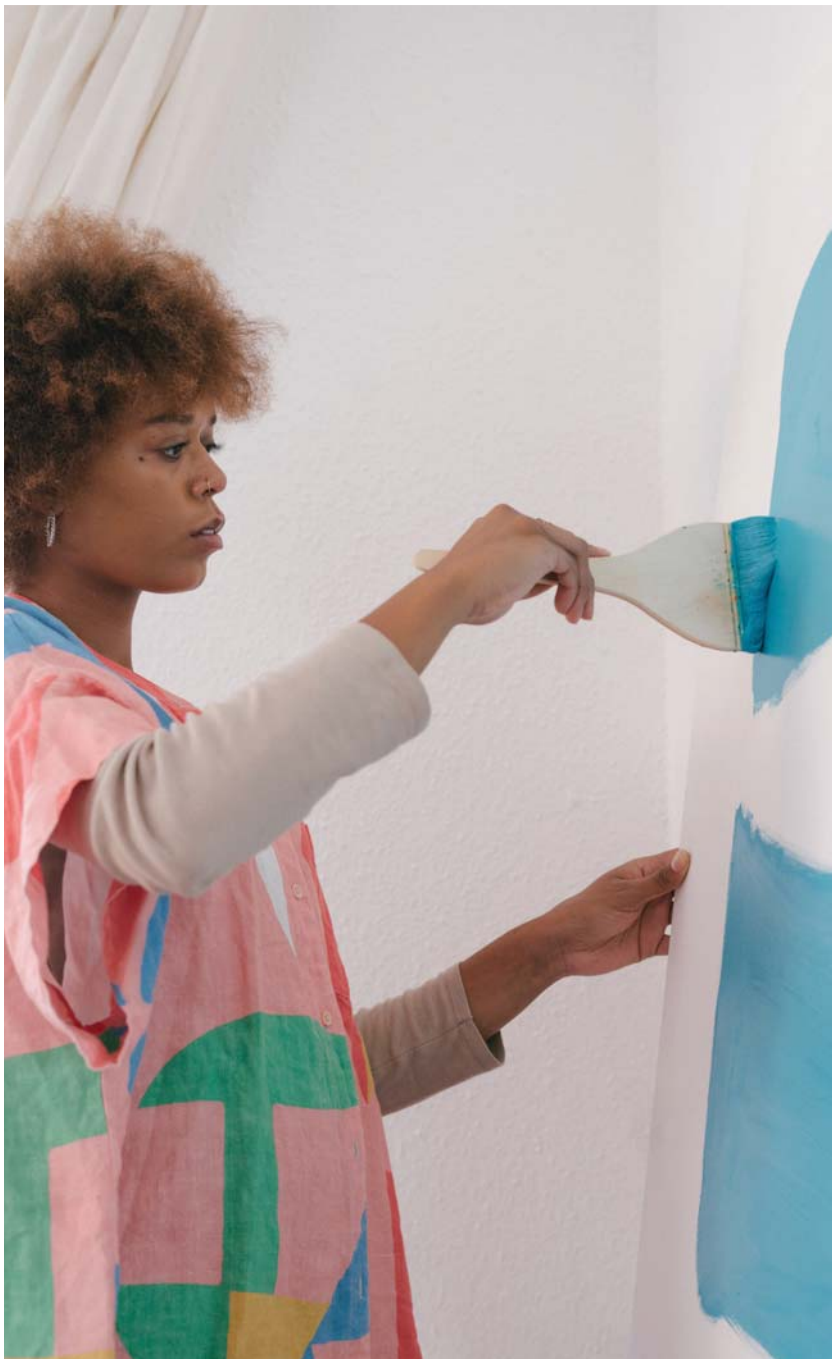
5. Participating each morning on the 31 Days of Prayer call. **We invite 100 prayer warriors to invite 10 other prayer warriors to join the 6 a.m. ET call.** You do the math: 1,000 seasoned saints called and committed to give \$31.00 or more supporting women's empowerment makes a powerful statement while commemorating the Rev. Lott Carey's Bicentennial Anniversary.

Lauding the Rev. Lott Carey, his return to Liberia, and serving the least of these while celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the 31 Days of Prayer is no coincidence. Pause for a moment and reflect on why God allowed these two occasions to collide. Pray for the sight and sensi-

tivity of El Roi, to decolonize a colonized consciousness normalizing violence against women.

Pledge your support, as we envision a world free of abuse. I challenge you to recognize how weaponizing blame and shame negatively impacts sisters, victimized by gender-based violence. Let's not continue the cycle of trauma. Let's not use the gospel to gaslight women, making them doubt their lived experiences. Let's not do any additional harm. Instead let's use our time, talents, and treasures wisely as we strive to dismantle structural gendered racism in the global community. Remember, together we are stronger.

Rev. Angelita Clifton, D.Min., is President of Lott Carey WISE (Women In Service Everywhere) and is Associate Minister at Fountain Baptist Church in Summit, New Jersey.



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Ayaka Kato, Pexels



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A Kickoff of 31 Days of Prayer to overcome Gendered Racism

Connect to the virtual service at 11 a.m. ET, Saturday, February 26, 2022, at Fountain Baptist Church in Summit, New Jersey, as we kick off 31 Days of Prayer for Women's Empowerment. The featured speaker will be Rev. Dr. Gina Stewart, President of Lott Carey and Pastor of Christ Missionary Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee.

Stream the service in the Lott Carey WISE SALT Group on Facebook, Lott Carey TV on YouTube, or The Fountain Baptist Church YouTube Channel.

Join us each morning during March at 6 a.m. ET in prayer for victims of gendered racism. The dial-in number is 267-807-9611. Access Code: 172051. Please consider donating \$31, \$131, \$331 or \$1,031 to support this project.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Spring Missions Conference, March 24-25, 2022, Hyatt Regency Atlanta, Atlanta, Georgia. In-Person and Virtual Meeting.
- 125th Lott Carey Annual Session, August 15-19, 2022, Hyatt Regency New Orleans, New Orleans, Louisiana. In-Person Meeting.

Check LottCarey.org for updates:

- Resurrection Monday Service, Monday, April 18, 2022.
- 68th Annual Youth Seminar.

