



## Dear prayer friends in Europe,

“How long, Lord, will you look on?” (Psalm 35) This must be a question regularly lifted to the Lord from those of us who look on, as well as those suffering the destruction of bombs and bullets, fearing for their lives and the future of their nation. David was fleeing for his life when he wrote these words; the threat was real and yet in the same psalm he also says “I will give you thanks in the great assembly; among the throngs I will praise you.” He recognises God’s greatness, reaffirms his trust in Him and then is able to express confidence and hope for the future as he pours out his heart to the Lord. Along with our prayers for an end to the conflict in Ukraine, let’s see what God is already doing.

Jill Jeal

## Another look at the situation in Europe

In Canopy 131 we heard from a brother in Russia giving his insights into the current situation in the world. This time we would like to give the opportunity for a Ukrainian brother to share his thoughts with us.

Today is the day 116 of the war in Ukraine. It is hard to describe with words the pain, tragedy and grief that we as Ukrainians feel. I have never thought that the war would last so long.

Some cities are demolished to ashes, there are mass graves where the bodies of thousands of tortured, innocent civilians are buried. The violence of Russia’s armies is horrific and incomprehensible. In some occupied areas of Ukraine Russian occupants prohibit church services and persecute Christians.

It is estimated that nearly 11 million people have fled their homes. According to the United Nations, Ukraine is experiencing the fastest growing refugee crisis since the Second World War.

Yet, in times like this there is Light coming from the work of God’s church. A war can’t stop God from moving in the lives of people. Jesus said “I will build my church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it” (Matthew 16:18)

The evangelical churches across Ukraine serve as sleeping areas, feeding places, and community centres. The churches see record high attendance and daily serve thousands. People are coming to faith in Christ and we truly see the beauty coming from ashes.

The church grew during the darkest days of Soviet persecution. The church is growing today during the violent invasion of the Russian army.

We trust that God will take us through these trials. Our God is capable of taking down giants even with a few stones. Meanwhile we pray and act!

- Please pray for President Zelenskiy and God's hand upon him.
- Please pray for Ukrainian soldiers who fight for a free and European future for our nation.
- Please pray for God's divine intervention to stop the war.

Slavik - Odessa, Ukraine



Do you remember seeing this photo of the first Thanksgiving Day in Ukraine in 2017 when 2000,000 people gathered in Maidan Square, Kyiv to give thanks and lift up prayers for their country? The Lord will not have forgotten this!

- Let’s give thanks that Ukrainians are being touched by the gospel and the support they are receiving from the evangelical churches. May many more give their lives to Christ.
- Pray that the missile attacks would not escalate and affect other cities, which have had a measure of calm recently.
- Pray that Belarus would not get involved directly in this conflict, in spite of Russia’s moves to push them in that direction.

### Update:-

The overturning of the Roe v Wade decision in the USA could cause ramifications across Europe where there are also opposing views on abortion legislation. Some countries are currently resisting calls from both European and international institutions to declare that abortion is a basic human right. Let us remember and pray for the USA as they see angry confrontations that could so easily be replicated in Europe.

### Additional Prayer Points:-

1. Pray for Lithuania as they implement the EU sanctions on certain goods being transported to Kaliningrad, which has angered the Kremlin.
2. Pray that there would not be any escalation of incursions by the Russian military into Estonia with its high percentage of Russians in its population which is, along with the other Baltic states, a NATO nation.

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