



THE  
LUTHERAN  
WORLD  
FEDERATION

A Communion  
of Churches

## LITURGY 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM 2023

### LAC WOMEN AND GENDER JUSTICE NETWORK

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#### WELCOME.

#### *INVOCATION:*

L: May the grace of Jesus, the love of God and the communion of the Divine Ruah be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

L: In the morning, in the afternoon, and at noon we will cry out.

**C: And God will hear our voice.**

L: We start in hope, in body and in spirit.

**C: Amen.**

*(Cfe. Psalm 55:17, 18).*

#### *SONG:*

#### *PRAYER OF THE DAY:*

L: God, Mother and Father, grant us today to raise our voice in favor of women who suffer violence from our painful countries. We trust that our voices are heard by you, who tenderly embrace us and act for justice.

Hear our prayers and may the pains of the women who suffer move the body and spirit of all this your church.

And may it be the hope in your word that encourages us to continue believing that a world without violence is possible. Amen.

## BIBLE READING:

### *Psalm 55:4-14.*

My heart is in anguish within me;  
the terrors of death have fallen upon me.  
<sup>5</sup> Fear and trembling come upon me,  
and horror overwhelms me.  
<sup>6</sup> And I say, "O that I had wings like a dove!  
I would fly away and be at rest;  
<sup>7</sup> truly, I would flee far away;  
I would lodge in the wilderness; *Selah*  
<sup>8</sup> I would hurry to find a shelter for myself  
from the raging wind and tempest."  
  
<sup>9</sup> Confuse, O Lord, confound their speech,  
for I see violence and strife in the city.  
<sup>10</sup> Day and night they go around it  
on its walls,  
and iniquity and trouble are within it;  
<sup>11</sup> ruin is in its midst;  
oppression and fraud  
do not depart from its marketplace.  
  
<sup>12</sup> It is not enemies who taunt me—  
I could bear that;  
it is not adversaries who deal insolently with me—  
I could hide from them.  
<sup>13</sup> But it is you, my equal,  
my companion, my familiar friend,  
<sup>14</sup> with whom I kept pleasant company;  
we walked in the house of God with the throng.

### *REFLECTION OF THE WORD:*

#### *SONG:*

For the troubles and the sufferings of the world,  
God, we call upon your mercy;  
The whole creation's laboring in pain!  
Lend an ear to the rising cry for help from oppressed and hopeless people:  
Come! Hasten your salvation, healing, love!  
*Kyrie eleison!*

*(Rodolfo Gaede Neto)*

## SHARING OF PEACE.

### GENERAL PRAYER:

➤ *(Here you can invite several people to read a part of the prayer.)*

Dear God,

**L:** We pray for all sick women; may they have the necessary medicines and medical attention to regain health.

**C:** **If I could have the wings like a dove, I would fly and rest!**

**L:** We pray for women who suffer with domestic violence; may they find support networks to get away and find safety.

**C:** **If I could have the wings like a dove, I would fly and rest!**

**L:** We pray for all the mothers who are searching for their missing daughters and sons.

**C:** **If I could have wings like a dove, I would fly and rest!**

**L:** Listen to the pain of women who suffer in silence; may they find courage to denounce what is happening in their lives.

**C:** **If I could have wings like a dove, I would fly and rest!**

**L:** Let the whole church unite against violence and not join and support unjust powers.

**C:** **If I could have wings like a dove, I would fly and rest!**

**L:** Listen to our voice that seeks hope, and may our aching bodies find rest in the Spirit of justice.

**C:** **May it be so, let us fly and rest in the justice of the God of love and mercy.**

## SONG

*Refrain:*

### BLESSING:

May God's blessing be the living hope that embraces us all.

May the blessing of the Son, Jesus, who in body suffered and struggled to remove the pain of this world, reach us all.

And may the Spirit send us to offer a good words to heal and save all women who suffer. Amen.