

Wave of Prayer 6—July 20, 2022

Homelessness has become a huge problem globally. The United Nations estimates that more than 1.5 billion people have inadequate housing. In the United States, more than 500,000 people are homeless, while millions face a housing crisis due to lack of affordable housing.

- **God, we pray for all those in the world who face housing insecurity. We thank you for the people and programs focused on alleviating this problem. We pray that all people may have a safe and comfortable place to call home. Loving God, we offer you our prayer.**

On June 27, eight Akron (OH) police officers shot and killed 25-year-old Jayland Walker, with dozens of shots being fired at him while he was fleeing after police attempted to pull him over for equipment violations. About 1,100 people are fatally shot by police officers each year in the United States, averaging three people a day.

- **God, we mourn the loss of Jayland Walker as well as others, named and unnamed, who are killed at the hands of police each year. We pray that officers will seek to respond to tense situations without violence when at all possible. God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

On June 27, 53 migrants (from Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador) were found dead after being trapped in a trailer in San Antonio, Texas. In addition, 12 adults and 4 children were taken to hospital. This is one of the deadliest cases of human smuggling ever in the United States. Cross-border smuggling happens not only along the U.S. Mexico border but also in many other parts of the world.

- **God, we pray for the migrants who died in San Antonio and for all migrants who have experienced a similar fate. We pray for their families, who have suffered tragic loss. We pray that the root causes may be explored and dealt with so that human loss such as this does not become more commonplace than it already is. Loving God, we offer you our prayer.**

Russia has been at war with Ukraine for nearly five months. In addition to the 5,000 civilian casualties and 6,000 civilian injuries in Ukraine, nine million people have fled from Ukraine to other countries. A lesser-known group of people who have fled are foreign students who were studying in Ukraine, a hub for higher education. Some 80,000 students now face an uncertain future.

- **God, we pray for all who have fled from Ukraine as a result of the war. Today, we especially pray for foreign students whose education in Ukraine has been disrupted. Grant them comfort and peace as they face the unknown. May all who desire an education throughout the world have an opportunity to receive an education. God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Unrest is ever present. In June, ethnic killing took the lives of 200+ Ethiopians, and a massacre in Mali killed over 100. Japan's former prime minister, Shinzo Abe, was assassinated on July 8 in a country where gun violence is rare. Economic collapse and political turmoil continue in Sri Lanka. While the president fled the country on July 13, neither he nor the prime minister have officially resigned. Millions of Sri Lankans face a severe shortage of food, cooking gas, fuel, and medicine.

- **God, with so many global crises, it is difficult to know how to pray. We lift up each situation to you. Make your presence known in each country and region, and to each family and individual who is experiencing unrest. Let there be an end to violence. May there be peace. Let there be an end to scarcity. May there be enough for all. Loving God, we offer you our prayer.**