

Life Is In the Howling Wind

Lord, the wind is howling today. The sun is shining yet the air is cool, but with more than a touch of spring in it. The seasons are changing once again. New life is peaking out of the ground and tree buds are fat and ready to burst out into life.



Use the wind to clear away the gloom and dread that threaten my soul. Fill me with the pulse of new spring life so that I will be invigorated and ready to speak and act in your name; to stand with all people in need where ever and whoever they are. For your new life is not a gift for me alone. It is available freely to all for the asking. Remind me that with the gift comes the responsibility to share it.

I am called to speak out and work to make sure that no one builds walls to keep others away from your gifts or tries to keep them only for themselves. Let your howling and refreshing wind bring compassion where there is selfishness, wisdom where there is foolishness, unity where there is division, kindness where there is antagonism and cruelty. Make me an instrument of your peace and justice. Amen

This week pray for:

- In this fifth week of Lent, remember, not a week goes by that we do not hear new reports about senseless violence and see leaders who put themselves and their own interests ahead of their responsibilities to meet the needs of the people. Continue praying for the community of faith. We are called to speak up for those who suffer and care for them. This week, how can you stand up and make a difference for those in need, here among us and where we will never see them?
- People in **Central America** who live in desperate circumstances and have been told this week that that there will be no more help for their countries from the U.S.
- Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Brazil, Burkina Faso, British Indian Ocean Territory, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Greenland, Guam, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kosovo, Kuwait, Kyrgyz Republic, Liberia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, South Korea, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Syria, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan, West Bank & Gaza, Yemen. **The U.S. is engaging in some military activity in all these countries, everything from maintaining a base in some to bombing and combat in others.**
- Those affected by **winter storms or continuing flooding** and its aftermath.

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