

# Israel Prayer Calendar

## June & July

### 2023

CHRISTIANS FOR  
**ISRAEL**  
INTERNATIONAL

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**'After the reading from the Law and the Prophets, the leaders of the synagogue sent word to them, saying, 'Brothers, if you have a word of exhortation for the people, please speak' (Acts 13:15).**

For the next two months, you will find a section from the Haftara Reading on Saturdays/Sabbaths. This reading is the concluding reading during the Sabbath service after first reading from the Torah. Usually, this reading comes from the Prophets. It is not yet fully understood what led to the creation of the Haftara Reading. One theory is that the Haftara Reading originated when the Greek ruler Antiochus IV Epiphanes banned Jews from reading from the Torah on the Sabbath in the second century BC. The rabbis then looked for a way out and devised to read a portion from the Prophets which matched the topic of that week's Torah reading. Fortunately, the situation is different now and Jews in Israel have been living in a country where they are allowed to learn freely from the Torah.

Over the next two months, you will find points of thanksgiving for God's great faithfulness to His people. We'll continue to pray for God's protection against all external threats.

Shalom,  
The Christians for Israel International Prayer Team

## June 2023

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- Thu 1 Jun** 'The wonderful thing about praying is that you leave a world of not being able to do something and enter God's realm where everything is possible' (Corrie ten Boom). The prayer for peace for Israel, sometimes seems like a prayer too big to pray. But with God, all things are possible. Pray for peace between Israel and the Palestinians and pray for the peace of Jerusalem
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- Fri 2 Jun** The cost of living in Israel is very high. Meanwhile, 2.5 million Israelis live in poverty including many children. Pray that the cost of living will go down, and that poor people get help to make ends meet.
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- Sat 3 Jun** 'Then Manoah said to the Angel of the LORD, "What is Your name, that when Your words come to pass we may honor You?" And the Angel of the LORD said to him, "Why do you ask My name, seeing it is wonderful? (Judges 13:17-18). God's name is 'Wonderful' or translated differently 'too wonderful'. Thank God for His greatness, that He is so much bigger and mightier than we can realize.
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- Sun 4 Jun** Recently, the leader of Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) died in an Israeli prison after an 86-day hunger strike. Immediately, Hamas and PIJ blamed Israel for this and threatened revenge. Pray for Israel's protection from reprisals. Also pray that the world will not go along with the narrative that Israel is to blame for his death.
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- Mon 5 Jun** Pray for a blessing on the work of Israel's Secret Service Shin Bet. Shin Bet has already managed to prevent many attacks. Pray that Shin Bet will have the right information to stop terrorists at all times.
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- Tue 6 Jun** A number of Israel's leading rabbis recently called on the Israeli people to fast for a day and pray for an end to divisions among the people. Give thanks for this beautiful initiative and join us in praying for unity among the Jewish people.
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## June 2023

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<b>Wed 7 Jun</b>	'For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first (1 Thessalonians 4:16). Pray that Jesus will return soon, so that there will be global peace for Israel and the nations.
<b>Thu 8 Jun</b>	Israel ranks fourth among the world's happiest people. It is extraordinary that Israel scores so high with all the threats the people are facing. One explanation given is that it gives Israelis great joy to live in the land of God. Give thanks for the joy of Israelis despite difficult circumstances.
<b>Fri 9 Jun</b>	Israel is the only Western democracy with a relatively high birth rate. In particular, the Jewish birth rate is currently high. This growth in the population ensures a great number of young people, which is good for a healthy economic future.
<b>Sat 10 Jun</b>	'I will remove the sin of this land in a single day' (Zechariah 3:9c). This Scripture refers to Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, but we also see a reference to Good Friday. Give thanks for Jesus' sacrifice on the cross for His people and for the whole world.
<b>Sun 11 Jun</b>	More than 50 percent of all Lone Soldiers (soldiers serving in the Israeli army without families in Israel) are in debt. The government as well as the army intend to help these soldiers. Pray for the financial support of these soldiers as well as the emotional support.
<b>Mon 12 Jun</b>	The unrest in Israel between supporters and opponents of the current government is also spreading among Jews outside Israel. The Jewish Agency, among others, wrote a letter to Netanyahu expressing concerns about this division. Pray that peace and unity will be restored, in Israel and among Jews abroad.
<b>Tue 13 Jun</b>	The Temple Mount in Jerusalem is always under a magnifying glass of the world, and many different interests are at play. Pray for peace on the Temple Mount. Pray that Jews will be allowed to pray there again in freedom.
<b>Wed 14 Jun</b>	Israel has launched a reconnaissance satellite capable of observing locations by day and night and in all weather conditions. The satellite can provide important intelligence for the Israeli military. Give thanks for this technological development and pray that the satellite contributes to Israel's better defense against attacks.
<b>Thu 15 Jun</b>	Pray for projects Christians for Israel supports in Israel (The Jaffa Institute, Hineni, Rev. Khoury, Rev. Shalash etc., Holocaust Survivors). That our (financial) support will enable the organizations to continue their good work. Pray also for the people who receive help from the organizations we support. That they will be comforted.
<b>Fri 16 Jun</b>	In Israel, Palestinian terrorists regularly deliberately drive cars into Jews. Pray for protection for the Israelis. Pray also that people planning these attacks will change their mind.
<b>Sat 17 Jun</b>	'And (Rahab) said to them, "I know that the LORD has given you this land and that a great fear of you has fallen on us, so that all who live in this country are melting in fear because of you' (Joshua 2:9). Rahab acknowledges that God has given the land of Canaan to Israel. Pray that in our time more and more people will recognize that the land of Israel was given to the Jewish people.
<b>Sun 18 Jun</b>	In Israel, archaeological excavations regularly prove the reliability of the Bible. Give thanks for this and pray that this will make people think about the reliability of the Bible and the centuries-long connection between the Jewish people and the Land of Israel.
<b>Mon 19 Jun</b>	Despite unrest and increasing prices in Israel, the number of tourists visiting Israel is growing. Give thanks for this positive development and pray that many tourists will continue to visit Israel. Pray that their visit will increase their love for Israel and the Jewish people.
<b>Tue 20 Jun</b>	Pray that spies from Iran or other countries hostile to Israel will be discovered. Also pray that Israeli spies will not be discovered so that they will be able to gather information that will enable Israel to better defend itself against attacks.
<b>Wed 21 Jun</b>	Pray for Holocaust survivors living in Israel. They often live in poverty and the trauma of the Holocaust plays a major role in their lives. Pray for a blessing on the work of organizations that help and assist these people.
<b>Thu 22 Jun</b>	'I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people - for kings and all those in authority' (1 Timothy 2:1-2a). Israel's economy is facing challenging times. The value of the shekel has gone down and there is high inflation. Pray for wisdom for the Israeli government to do the right thing, and pray that poverty will not increase further.
<b>Fri 23 Jun</b>	In Gaza, the unemployment is very high. If Palestinian leaders sought peace with Israel, the situation would be very different. Pray that Hamas will stop terrorizing its own people and keeping them poor, and pray for job prospects for all in Gaza who are now unemployed.

## June 2023

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<b>Sat 24 Jun</b>	'For the sake of His great name the LORD will not reject His people, because the LORD was pleased to make you His own' (1 Samuel 12:22). God's faithfulness to Israel is eternal. Whether Israel does good or bad, they will always remain God's people. Give thanks for God's great faithfulness. Pray that this will be professed by all Christians.
<b>Sun 25 Jun</b>	Recently, a bomb exploded along a highway in northern Israel, seriously injuring an Israeli. Afterwards, the bomb turned out to have been planted by a terrorist linked to Hezbollah. Pray for protection from Hezbollah attacks in the north of the country.
<b>Mon 26 Jun</b>	There is unrest near the Golan Heights. These include danger from Iranian (combat) drones being sent towards Israel. Pray for calm in the Golan Heights and protection from danger.
<b>Tue 27 Jun</b>	Pray for the more than 500,000 Jews living in Judea Samaria. They are regularly attacked for the sole reason that they live in the Biblical Heartland. Pray for protection and perseverance for these Jews.
<b>Wed 28 Jun</b>	Give thanks that there are people brave enough to live near the Gaza Strip. They are sometimes literally the buffer zone between Gaza and Jerusalem when rockets are fired from Gaza. Pray for protection of the southern villages.
<b>Thu 29 Jun</b>	Saudi Arabia is seeking rapprochement with Iran. This could be negative for Israel as ties between Israel and Saudi Arabia have just improved. Pray that the renewed ties between Saudi Arabia and Iran will not mean more enmity towards Israel.
<b>Fri 30 Jun</b>	Ties with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have become more strained again since normalization. Good ties with Arab countries are important for Israel because it needs allies against threats from Iran. Pray that relations remain good, but also pray that Israel may rest in the knowledge that they depend on God and not on other countries for protection.

## July 2023

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<b>Sat 1 Jul</b>	'Then the Spirit of the LORD came on Jephthah. He crossed Gilead and Manasseh, passed through Mizpah of Gilead, and from there he advanced against the Ammonites' (Judges 11:29). When the Spirit of the LORD comes on people, they can do great things. Pray that the Spirit of the LORD will be on the leaders in Israel so that they receive wisdom and strength to govern and defend the land well.
<b>Sun 2 Jul</b>	Danger to Israel comes not only from Arab countries, but also from Western countries with increasing calls from anti-Israel groups to boycott Israel. Pray for Israel's protection from this hostile attitude.
<b>Mon 3 Jul</b>	Pray that Israeli security services will find out in time when attacks are being prepared. Pray that attacks will be prevented.
<b>Tue 4 Jul</b>	It has been stated by the Islamic Fatwa Council in Najaf, a council of senior Islamic clerics, that Hamas is responsible for the suffering of Palestinians in the Gaza Strip. Give thanks for this acknowledgement and pray for Palestinians who are suffering. Pray for leaders to come to power who long for peace.
<b>Wed 5 Jul</b>	Israel regularly attacks targets in Syria linked to Iran and Hezbollah. Examples of such targets are factories where missiles are made. Pray for wisdom for Israel to attack the right targets.
<b>Thu 6 Jul</b>	In April, the eldest son of the last Shah (the Shah ruled Iran before the Iranian revolution in 1978) of Iran visited Israel. He explained that the Iranian people are enthusiastic about normalization with Israel, but the leadership is blocking peace with Israel. Give thanks for his encouraging visit and pray that the voice of the Iranian people can no longer be ignored by the Iranian government.
<b>Fri 7 Jul</b>	At the International March of the Living in Auschwitz (a commemorative march from Auschwitz to Birkenau), an Arab delegation was present for the second time. Pray that more and more Arabs will be educated about the Holocaust and that the hatred towards Israel that is still often present in Arab countries will disappear.
<b>Sat 8 Jul</b>	'While he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, LORD," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors." Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep. All at once an angel touched him and said, "Get up and eat"' (1 Kings 19:4-5). When Elijah lacks strength, an angel comes to his aid. Pray that God will come to the rescue of all who lack strength.
<b>Sun 9 Jul</b>	President Herzog has put forward a proposal to establish a forum for Jews worldwide to discuss issues important to the Jewish people, such as current developments in Israel. Pray for a blessing on this plan and pray that it may lead to greater unity among the Jewish people worldwide.

## May 2023

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<b>Mon 10 Jul</b>	A group of European, mostly Jewish, young people have taken the initiative to polish up stumbling stones to keep the memory of the Holocaust alive. Their goal is to clean all the 90,000 stumbling stones in Europe. Give thanks for this beautiful initiative by the young people and pray for a blessing on their activities.
<b>Tue 11 Jul</b>	Next year, Israel and Vietnam will sign a free trade agreement. This is the result of years of consultations and diplomatic relations. Give thanks for this agreement and pray that it will be a blessing for both countries.
<b>Wed 12 Jul</b>	Antisemitism can be found in all kind of groups: extreme right, extreme left, among Muslims, and unfortunately also among Christians, among people opposed to the State of Israel, etc. Pray that in all these groups people will repent of their hatred towards the Jewish people.
<b>Thu 13 Jul</b>	In recent months, antisemitism on Twitter has increased. It mainly involves tweets with conspiracy theories about Jews. Antisemitism is also rife on other social media. Pray for people to stand up to this and for antisemitic posts to be blocked.
<b>Fri 14 Jul</b>	Around one hundred human rights groups have sent a letter to the United Nations calling for the international definition of antisemitism not to be adopted as it would prevent the State of Israel from being criticized. Pray that the very definition of antisemitism is adopted.
<b>Sat 15 Jul</b>	'The word of the LORD came to me: "What do you see, Jeremiah?" "I see the branch of an almond tree," I replied. The LORD said to me, "You have seen correctly, for I am watching to see that My word is fulfilled' (Jeremiah 1:11-12). Give thanks to God for keeping His promises and ensuring that all promises to Israel and to us are and will be fulfilled.
<b>Sun 16 Jul</b>	The children of your oppressors will come bowing before you; all who despise you will bow down at your feet' (Isaiah 60:14a). During the commemoration of the Jews' uprising against German occupation in the Warsaw Ghetto (80 years ago), German President Steinmeier asked forgiveness for German crimes during World War II. Give thanks for this.
<b>Mon 17 Jul</b>	At universities, antisemitic incidents have become quite common. Jewish students are being assaulted, and anti-Israel activities are being organized (like the 'Israel Apartheid Week' at a university in the USA). Pray for protection of students from hatred and pray that students and teachers will realize their wrongdoing.
<b>Tue 18 Jul</b>	The European Union (EU) has promised Israel that EU-donated money will not be used to spread hatred against Israel, e.g. through Palestinian textbooks. Pray that the EU keeps this promise. Pray also that the EU demands that the Palestinian Authority doesn't use the donations to financially reward terrorists.
<b>Wed 19 Jul</b>	Through social media, children at a very young age are exposed to antisemitic jokes about e.g. World War II. People posting these jokes don't understand that these jokes hurt Jews. Pray for more education on this. Pray also that children are instead encouraged to be friends with the Jewish people.
<b>Thu 20 Jul</b>	'Love does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs' (1 Corinthians 13:5). Pray that Christians will reach out to the Jewish people with this love to comfort them. Pray that the church will see that Israel is still God's people.
<b>Fri 21 Jul</b>	Earlier this year, a group of 266 Ethiopian Jews returned to Israel. Give thanks that this group was allowed to make Aliyah. Pray that those still left behind in Ethiopia can leave for Israel soon too.
<b>Sat 22 Jul</b>	'Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool' (Isaiah 1:18b). Give thanks for this promise from God to His people.
<b>Sun 23 Jul</b>	In 2022, 75,000 Jews made Aliyah to Israel. Give thanks for this wonderful number and pray that the number will even be higher in 2023.
<b>Mon 24 Jul</b>	Due to turmoil in Israeli society, including disagreements between supporters and opponents of the judicial reforms, more and more Israelis are thinking of emigrating. Pray for calm in society, and that Israelis continue to feel connected to Israel.
<b>Tue 25 Jul</b>	Pray for Jews in Ukraine and Russia who want to emigrate to Israel because of the war. Pray that they will have the opportunity to do so. Pray also for Koen Carlier and his team in Ukraine who operate under difficult circumstances and continue to help as many Jews as possible.
<b>Wed 26 Jul</b>	Give thanks for the international work of Christians for Israel. In over 40 countries, volunteers are active in spreading the message about God's faithfulness and love for Israel. Thank for the efforts of the many volunteers and pray for open doors so that the message reaches more and more people.

## July 2023

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- Thu 27 Jul**     **Tisha Be-Av (Destruction of the Temple)**  
During Tisha Be-Av, Jews fast and commemorate disasters in Jewish history, including the fall of the temples. Pray on this day for consolation and encouragement for the Jewish people.
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- Fri 28 Jul**     Give thanks for Elena Kovarsky. As the director of First Home in the Homeland, she has meant a lot for people who made Aliyah and chose to take part in this integration program in the kibbutzim, also sponsored by Christians for Israel. She recently retired after developing the First Home in the Home program for 16 years. Pray for her new calling to take care of the elderly people in her kibbutz. Pray also for Juliya and Valeria, who take over Elena's role and position.
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- Sat 29 Jul**     'The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom' (Isaiah 40:28). Often, we do not understand God in His way with us or His people Israel. But God is above our thinking and intelligence. Give thanks for the greatness and wisdom of God.
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- Sun 30 Jul**     'The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for Me' (Matthew 25:40). Pray that pastors will speak about Israel with love while preaching. Pray also that Israel will have a place in prayer during the church service.
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- Mon 31 Jul**     In Austria, Christians for Israel's youth work has recently been relaunched. Give thanks for this and pray for inspiration and creativity among the young people involved. Pray that the younger generation may also begin to discover Israel's role in God's plan for this world.
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