

**"I have a dream!" And we too have a dream for Germany.**

We all know these famous words of Martin Luther King, which he spoke out during a speech in Washington in 1963 at a time when racial discrimination was still widespread in the USA. But he was able to foresee something of the future because he could see beyond the current situation. With his prophetic words he revealed the way for real healing and restoration of relationships within society and much then changed in America in the years that followed. But it all began with a dream – an inner picture and vision for a new future in his country.

When we pray for the federal election, for a new beginning and for the future of Germany, at this time we want to dream together with the Holy Spirit. When we dream, we do not analyse the situation, we are not fixated on the problems. Instead, we take on God's perspective. God has a master plan for Germany that includes the impossible and the improbable. He will always work through the bad things that happen to bring about good things.

What ideas do we really have for the future of our country? Our ideas shape our perception and determine how we really see things. Our personal view is so important because it is here that our thoughts, dreams, and ideas are formed. In each of us as intercessors there must be a dream that reveals to us God's thoughts and plans for our country and which then enables us to bring these to life. If we want to stand by our country through its crises, then we need an "inner view" that does not wait to see what happens, but is actively involved in shaping the future in which God is actively involved.

Our thoughts, which are just focussed on human possibilities, probabilities, political promises, election results, etc., are so limited. But the eyes of our hearts together with the Holy Spirit, can see without limits. So, the question is: What are we seeing? The prophets in Israel in the Bible were also asked this question (Jeremiah 1:11). God always directs our view to Himself and to His provisions in creation, in His kingdom and in His righteousness (Matthew 6:26-34). It is not about closing our eyes to the what we see around us, but rather having a divine vision that can see far beyond. That is our dream for intercession for Germany with our God!

**Prayer for the federal election on February 23rd and the subsequent formation of a government/coalition negotiations**

Do you feel the winds of change? Let us pray for a new beginning in our country and not get caught up in the political disputes which divide us.

**A: Election and coalition negotiations**

- For a high voter turnout and unity among the people.
- For the election of a chancellor and federal ministers (and their advisors) who allow themselves to be led by God.
- For God's guidance and successful coalition talks for the good of the country.
- For authentic, honest debates that open up new areas for thought and trust and point the righteous way into the future.
- For visionaries and bridge builders who can connect our country across party lines.

**B: Unity and justice in Germany**

- For healing in our country from abuse of power and from deep wounds in interpersonal relationships.
- For a spirit of awakening and hope that drives out the lethargy, fear, and disillusionment within us.
- For a new culture of life and joy as well as social togetherness and cooperation.
- For new life in all areas of society (infant daycare, schools, universities, health care, banks and finance, arts, research and many more).

**C: For a renewal of democracy and freedom**

- That democracy is brought back to life in our everyday social life and that people are not afraid to express their opinions freely.
- For a renewal of parties, party systems and democratic decision-making.
- For securing freedom in the future of our country in these times of online internet communication and artificial intelligence.

**D: For new developments and efficiencies in the economy and in business**

- For an end to the standstill and streamlining of the state and bureaucracy.
- For new technologies and paths that will lead our country into an economic upturn.
- For new visions and paths for struggling medium-sized businesses and small entrepreneurs.
- For a wealth of ideas and innovation and the release of new physical and mental capacity and energy in personnel to handle change.

Alexander Schlüter

## Peace for Ukraine and Europe

On February 22nd, Russia's war in Ukraine will have lasted three years. Despite small successes by Ukraine, Russia is gaining ground every day and seems to be winning the war little by little. Russia is now waging a hybrid war against Europe with attacks on its critical and defence infrastructure, sabotage against energy and transport facilities and cyber-attacks. Ships are sailing under false flags in the Baltic Sea and destroying power and data cables.

The European NATO states are increasing control over shipping and investing in their defence capabilities, but would still not be able to secure peace in Europe without the USA. US President Trump has now announced that he will end the war as quickly as possible, force Russia to the negotiating table using economic and military pressure or even by making concessions. He has even announced the withdrawal of US troops from Europe and is calling on NATO states to spend 5% of their economic output on defence. Germany should not only be able to defend itself, but should also be prepared as a hub for NATO manoeuvres in the event of war. To secure a possible ceasefire along the borders, President Selenskyj is demanding 200,000 soldiers, which Europe does not have. The political fronts in Germany and the EU are divided between further arms deliveries to Ukraine and peace negotiations.

### Prayer:

- **For the grace of God and peace for Ukraine and Russia. (Numbers 6:24-27)**
- **Thanks for NATO and continued prayer for unity within NATO as a defence alliance and community of common values, and as it stands together for peace, democracy, freedom, and the rule of international law. (Ecclesiastes 4:12)**
- **For the federal election and new government in Germany: that Germany continues to help Europe to achieve peace in Ukraine on the paths already prepared by God. (Matthew 5:9)**

Karin Heepen

## 25 Years of the Call of the Watchmen – a Prayer Network for Germany

In these troubled, worry-filled days, when - as written in Psalm 2 - the nations are moving back and forth and many anti-Christian plans seem to prevail, comfort comes from our hearts, from the source of our God. As always! We may remember that God's master plan lasts forever, that, in his great wisdom, he indeed puts everything together to form a beautiful overall picture. That nothing slips away from him, that he weaves all the threads together wonderfully, even those that seem totally confusing and even grossly wrong to us.

From the completed work of the cross, we can proclaim over all situations in our personal lives and over our beloved country as well: It is finished! (John 19:30). We can take this prophetic view outside of space and time and thereby draw his

victory into the here and now and thus activate his unlimited transformative power! At the same time, this is a perspective of praise and faith that always helps us more than any detailed analysis that is from a human perspective. It also overcomes the deep divisions that are created because of different political views and streams of thought and also brings joy and peace to the heart, which then contributes to the much-needed stress relaxation.

During these days, the Holy Spirit reminded me of the well-known quote by Mother Julian of Norwich. As a Christian mystic, she lived in voluntary seclusion during a very dark era of war and plague but, moved by the love of God, she recognized that: "All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well." She drew this wisdom from her deep fellowship and bond with the Father. Let us also immerse ourselves again and again in this intimacy with the Trinity, especially when in our hearts we bring the concerns of our country before God.

It was 25 years ago, on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2000, at midnight, that the starting signal was given for the Call of the Watchmen. It is hard to believe that thousands of people with very different church backgrounds (and certainly political opinions) from the North Sea and Baltic Sea to the Bavarian Forest and Lake Constance, and from the Lower Rhine to Lausitz, have been praying together for the politics and society of our country for 25 years now. It is a miracle! Together, God has given us a mandate that we have not let go of since. You are one of them. Thank you so much for your faithful prayers!

In many respects Germany is currently seen to be lying on the floor in the ring. As a whole nation, we are confronted with our failures, deep injuries, fractures, and weaknesses. But God will use our hearts to restore our country. Restoration will not happen relying on our old strength and holding on to old ideas. Rather, it happens when we come to complete rest in God's heart and our hearts pick up his heartbeat, his heart's rhythm.

### Prayer:

- **Thanks for the 25 years of the Call of the Watchmen – A Prayer Network for Germany!**
- **Let us come to rest completely in God and walk along the new path that lies before us holding the Father's hand.**

Alexander Schlüter

***With hope and faith in God for the next 25 years,***  
Alexander Schlüter and Team