



NETWORKING THE BAPTIST FAMILY TO IMPACT THE WORLD FOR CHRIST

A Prayer of Blessing

for BWA Women President Karen Wilson and Secretary-Treasurer Sherrie Cherdak

In your leadership, you are continuing a strong biblical tradition of women who have advanced the Kingdom of God. May you lead in the spirit and power of:

- **Shiphrah and Puah**, midwives for justice who brought forward life
- **Rahab** who provided refuge for strangers
- **Ruth** who embraced isolation and risk to provide care
- **Hannah** whose prayer and sacrifice set in motion Kingdom initiatives that impacted generations
- **Huldah** who was trusted to provide theological reflection and insight into the ways of the Lord
- **Esther** whose bravery prevented a genocide
- **Elisabeth** who sensed the Holy Spirit in ways her husband, a professional priest, did not and who helped raise a voice in the wilderness calling for national repentance
- **Mary** whose willing availability changed the contours of history and who at a personal level embraced uncertainty and constant adjustment in deepening recognition of Jesus and the mission of God
- **Mary Magdalene** and the other **Mary** commissioned as the first evangelists with the transformative declaration that Jesus is risen
- **Mary the mother of Mark** who likely owned the home that hosted the Last Supper, the home where Jesus greeted the disciples after his resurrection, the home where the disciples reflected on Pentecost and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, a Pentecostal outpouring needed again today that every language and people group in the world may declare the praises of Jesus Christ
- **Priscilla** who along with her husband Aquila modeled missional church planting
- **Junia** who was well known to the apostles for her leadership and suffered the indignity of imprisonment for her faith in order to live as an apostle for Jesus Christ.

First and foremost, may you lead and serve with the spirit and mind of Jesus Christ.

You are gifted, empowered, and called to serve for the glory of Jesus. We listen, we learn, and we serve alongside you. God bless you and continue to use you as President and Secretary-Treasurer of BWA Women.

Voiced by Baptist World Alliance General Secretary Elijah Brown on this day of Commissioning – July 16, 2020