



Jerusalem
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A Message to Our Partners from Bishop Dr. Imad Haddad

“They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.” (Isaiah 2:4)

In the face of yet another escalation of war in our region, our hearts are filled with deep anguish. As we journey through this Lenten season, a season that calls us nearer to God and closer to our neighbor, we here in the Holy Land are confronted once more with the devastating cost of military aggression. Families are anxious. Communities are unsettled. The fragile rhythms of daily life are again disrupted. This latest war does not stand alone; it imposes yet another layer of pressure, fear, and restriction upon an already burdened people. No people are created to live under the sound of war. War is not the life God intends for humanity.

We must speak with moral clarity: the continued decision to resort to war is a failure of human responsibility before God. Each new escalation tightens the grip of dread, deepens the lived reality of siege, and further constricts the space in which human dignity can breathe. Political calculations and security arguments must never be allowed to eclipse the sacred worth of human life.

From our Palestinian Christian context, we affirm without hesitation: life, not death, is God’s choice for humanity. Yet from this land we call holy, wounded yet steadfast, we refuse the temptation of despair. With the prophet Isaiah, we raise our voice with renewed urgency: *“They shall learn war no more.”* We remain committed to preaching the Gospel of reconciliation entrusted to us, the good news that through Christ, God reconciles humanity to Godself and calls us to the hard and holy work of reconciliation with one another.

Dear partners, we urge you: pray, and pray fervently. But do not let prayer become a substitute for responsibility. Let your prayers be joined with courageous and concrete action. Stand publicly with those who are afflicted. Advocate persistently for a just peace that safeguards the dignity and security of all people. Challenge policy makers whose narratives make endless war appear inevitable.

*The Evangelical Lutheran Church
in Jordan and the Holy Land*



الكنيسة الإنجيلية اللوثرية
في الأردن والأراضي المقدسة

In this critical hour, we also call upon you, our partners around the world, to accompany the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land with renewed commitment and solidarity. The people we serve are already facing severe economic hardship, instability, and fear, and this current escalation deepens their suffering. Despite our limited resources, we remain steadfast in supporting all who are in need and in sustaining the Christian presence in this land. Yet the magnitude of these challenges requires us to intensify our ministries of diakonia, pastoral care, and humanitarian response. We therefore invite you to walk closely with us—through prayer, advocacy, and generous partnership—so that together we may strengthen hope in this difficult time.

Our region and people are weary of cycles of violence that have stolen too many futures and burdened too many generations. The Church must not be content with calls for a superficial calm. Now is the time for the global body of Christ to embody its vocation as peacemaker, seeking not the quiet of managed conflict, but the costly, just peace that transforms hearts, structures, and the life of our region.

In this Lenten season, may God grant us the courage to choose life, the clarity to speak truth, and the steadfast faith to walk in the way of Christ, the Prince of Peace.

Bishop Dr. Imad Haddad

Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land

