

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



الكنيسة الإنجيلية اللوثرية
في الأردن والأراضي المقدسة

John 14:27 "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

To our congregants, staff, students, neighbors, partners, supporters, friends, and siblings in Christ,

For nearly two years, our people in Gaza, the West Bank, and Jerusalem have been suffering under devastating violence. Now, rather than the end to this bloodshed that we have prayed for, we are facing a war of a new scale that threatens to engulf our entire region in catastrophe. Israel's recent attacks on Iran are a dangerous escalation of tensions in the region, to which Iran has already begun their retaliation.

As we have prayed fervently for 20 months for the end to the genocide in Gaza, we pray now for an immediate end to these new acts of war that have already caused suffering and death for hundreds of people and threaten to do so for thousands more.

We thank our siblings around the world for your prayers and words of support during this time of uncertainty and fear. As we look toward the coming days, we pray for all those impacted by war, death, and destruction. We lift our eyes to the one who brings comfort, peace, and justice to the world, our Lord Jesus Christ. Even as the ground shakes beneath our feet, we keep our trust in Him.

May God bring an end to this violence, and may we work for true peace throughout our homeland and the whole Middle East.

Your brother in Christ,

Bishop Doctor Sani Ibrahim Azar

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