

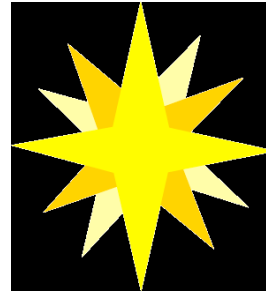
**O God, it is your desire that all the nations of the earth live in peace and harmony.**

You sent your prophets to turn your people from war. And to fulfill your will, you sent your Word Jesus Christ, to become flesh and dwell with us amid

our brokenness. As the Prince of Peace he invites all people into your kingdom, where violence and oppression will cease and Shalom will reign. Gracious God, look with mercy on those areas of our world afflicted by war, especially Israel and Palestine. Send the light of Christ into the darkness of conflict, protect the innocent who are in harm's way, and comfort those who have been injured or lost loved ones, homes, or freedom. Especially be with our sisters and brothers of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Jerusalem and the Holy Land as they witness and serve in your name. Protect and guide Presiding Bishop Hanson, Synodical Bishop Burkat, many bishops of the ELCA and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, their spouses and churchwide staff as they gather in the Middle East this week to witness to your peace, justice and mercy in the midst of this troubled land.



**Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.



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