

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



الكنيسة الإنجيلية اللوثرية
في الأردن والأراضي المقدسة

Christmas Appeal 2024

From the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land
(ELCJHL)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we approach the holy season of Christmas, we are reminded of the hope, love, and light that the birth of our Savior brings to a weary world. In Bethlehem, where the message of peace was proclaimed by angels so long ago, the reality for Palestinian Christians in the West Bank, East Jerusalem, and Gaza remains one of hardship, uncertainty, and struggle.

This year, we appeal to you—our international partners and faith communities—for your prayers, solidarity, and support during these challenging times. The message of Christmas calls us to stand together as one body in Christ, sharing both joys and burdens.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL) has a sacred mission to care for its people. This Christmas, we aim to provide \$80 USD to each of the 500 families, offering them meaningful assistance to celebrate this holy season. Our goal is to reach 400 needy families (Lutheran and other denominations) in the West Bank and East Jerusalem and 100 needy Christian families in Gaza, sharing with them the joy and hope of Christmas through these tangible gifts of love and support. The estimated budget for the Christmas Appeal would be 500 families x \$80 per family = \$40,000 USD.

This amount will help cover Christmas gifts, ensuring that each family feels supported and uplifted in the spirit of the season.

The situation for Palestinian Christians is increasingly difficult. The pressures of economic hardship, political instability, and limited freedoms weigh heavily on our communities. Yet, in this season of light, we find hope in the promise of Emmanuel—God with us—and in the love and solidarity of our brothers and sisters around the world.

We ask you to:

Pray: Lift up the families of the West Bank, East Jerusalem, and Gaza in your prayers, asking for peace, resilience, and the joy of Christ to fill their lives.

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Advocate: Speak out for justice and peace in the Holy Land, raising awareness in your communities about the challenges we face.

Support: Contribute to this Christmas initiative, enabling us to reach out to those in need with the love of Christ through acts of kindness and generosity.

Your prayers and support will allow us to embody the message of Christmas: a light shining in the darkness and hope for a better future.

Thank you for standing with us as we seek to share the love of Christ with our communities during this sacred season. Together, may we continue to work for peace, justice, and dignity for all.

May the blessings of Christmas fill your hearts and homes with joy, and may the peace of Christ, which surpasses all understanding, be with you always.

In Christ's peace,

+Azar

Bishop Sani-Ibrahim Azar

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land

