

## ALAMEH

رابطة العرب والشرق أوسطيون في الكنيسة الانجيلية اللوثرية في امريكا

### Association of Lutherans of Arab and Middle Eastern Heritage

The Association of Lutherans of Arab and Middle Eastern Heritage is concerned and disheartened by the violence events that are taking place in East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip. We stand in solidarity with the Palestinian people of Sheikh Jarrah and Silwan who are facing the threats of expulsion and home demolition.

Jerusalem is important to Christians, Muslims and Jews. It should be a city of peace and worship for all people. It cannot be claimed exclusively by any one group. Denying the rights of its Arab residents to live in equality in their homes will only bring suffering and injustice, but never peace. Equality and freedom – not exclusivity and domination - should be the guiding principles of both policy and practice.

We condemn all forms of violence, including the bombing of civilians by Israel and the rockets targeting Israel from Gaza. We mourn those who lost their lives, we pray for those who are injured, and for those who have lost their homes.

If you want to help, the first step is to become informed. Seek out Middle Eastern members of your community who have a direct connection to the Holy Land. Engage your heart and mind, and take the time to read and understand beyond the headlines. Then contact your elected representatives and make your voice heard.

Please pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

For more information visit the ELCA action alert and is a way you can take action [Peace Not Walls - May - Team ELCA](#)

Rev. Khader El-Yateem

ALAMEH President

