

## Wars Rage

**Light is stronger than darkness,  
hope is stronger than despair...**

**Let us Pray**

Tēnā koutou katoa

Greetings to you all in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

I write to you at a time when the world is experiencing much trauma. We are living in very troubled times, with war raging in so many places around the world. There are armed conflicts with Israel-Iran, Israel-Palestine, Russia-Ukraine, and civil wars in Myanmar and Sudan, and ongoing conflicts in many other places. Although physically distant from us, this terrible suffering and destruction is brought home to us on our television screens, online, and in our newspapers.

Many people are being killed, injured, persecuted, confined, dispossessed of their homes, many have little or nothing to eat or drink. We find it difficult to imagine how terrifying it must be to be on the ground in these places with such horror, bloodshed, fear, grief and worry all around. We feel deeply for those showing great courage in all that they are enduring. Such cruel inhumanity. The world feels broken.

We are living through a time of mounting anxiety and danger, and so in hope through Jesus, who came that all may have life in all of its fullness,

*Let us pray*

*for a de-escalation of war and tension*

*for successful dialogue and negotiation*

*for reconciliation between enemies*

*for provision of food and supplies for those in need*

*for wise, courageous and compassionate leadership*

*for healing and hope*

*for medical staff and hospitals who are caring for the wounded*

*for agencies providing help and provisions*

*for comfort and care for those who are suffering*

*for peace and for justice*

*We pray as people of resurrection hope – knowing that through Christ's resurrection that the light is stronger than the darkness, and hope is stronger than despair.*

Yours in Christ

Rose

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