

Dear Hillel,

Thank you for this invitation. It means so very much to me. I will certainly be passing it along to my congregants at Saint John's. Unfortunately, my attendance is required at the annual synod of our diocese on Saturday morning and I will not be able to attend myself.

Christians have a lot to answer for the midst of this time. While there can be no doubt that many of us, including the Anglicans that I represent, stand with you and your congregation and the wider Jewish community in solidarity and prayers for peace, we also must remember that our church has a long history and relationship with anti-Semitism. Our repentance of the sins of our past must be made real in action. We must take responsibility that there is no room for anti-Semitism or hate of any kind in our community and instead promote the neighbourly love that our faiths teach God invites his people to share.

Your very kind invitation to stand with you is a way of making this real. I can't fully express how much your invitation and welcome means to us. I am not a person given to sentimentality, but your neighbourly gesture in the midst of these difficult times brings me to tears.

I wonder if we could talk about some other opportunity for our congregations (and us personally) to get to know one another. I hope to speak again soon. Would you be open to meet for coffee some time?

Peace,
David +

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