



Diocese of New Westminster

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

The Right Reverend John R. Stephens
Bishop

April 2022

Greetings for Passover

Dear friend,

That time of year approaches when you will gather with family and friends in homes across the world to mark the festival of your liberation.

This year, the first eve of Passover falls on the Christian feast of Good Friday; yet another indication of how closely we walk together. For so much of our history, horrific acts of violence against the Jewish people have happened during the season of Passover (sadly sometimes by the hands of Christians), and even now attending synagogue can be an experience tinged with apprehension as we remember the recent and senseless loss of life in Poway and Pittsburgh.

As we come upon this festival commemorating a time of unshackling and release from fear, we are praying for you and Jewish families around the world, that peace may reign in your homes, that alongside bitter herbs of remembrance, delight in one another may fill your cups. May the coming nights not be like any other nights: may they be nights where you are filled with joy and music, like the bells of Miriam and her tambourine. May God sustain you, and may the food and wine of your table gladden you all.

We offer our hands in friendship, that we may write a new chapter in our history together.

Chag Pesach Sameach!

Faithfully,

The Right Revd John R. Stephens
Bishop

JRS:wls

