

**Resolution on Examining the Case for Making War in Ukraine**

WHEREAS, the ELCA social teaching statement “Church in Society: A Lutheran Perspective” calls for the church to engage in moral deliberations regarding governmental policy, and “discern when to support and when to confront society’s cultural patterns, values, and powers”; and

WHEREAS, the ELCA social teaching statement “For Peace in God’s World” calls for the church to engage actively in making peace not war; and

WHEREAS, there is little informed and inclusive debate regarding the steadily increasing involvement of the US in making war in Ukraine along with the probable consequences and significant risk of global annihilation; and

WHEREAS, our world is in danger from extreme weather events, toxins, and global pandemic waves; and too many of our neighbors fear interpersonal violence and suffer insecurities of basic needs like housing, food, and access to health care— all of which are exacerbated by current national priorities; and

WHEREAS, great unjustifiable harm, public debt, and personal loss have been incurred due to war-making in the last six decades; and

WHEREAS, the public is unaware of the evil and capacity of the weapons in this war (including the spread of explosives and toxins that will outlast the conflict, as well as the risk of nuclear bombs that would cause not just immediate indiscriminate deaths far worse than Hiroshima and Nagasaki but would also cause a nuclear winter/famine due to upper atmosphere smoke); therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Minneapolis Area Synod (MAS) acting in assembly ask the Bishop of the MAS to communicate to the MAS area members of Congress and Minnesota U.S. Senators that this Synod asks them to undertake the Constitutional responsibility of Congress to examine the case for the US making war in Ukraine.

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