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L'Église Unie du Canada
Le fonds du Primat pour le secours
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December 20, 2017
The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister:

We send warmest greetings to you and your family as we anticipate the birth of the Christ Child.

Leading up to Christmas, we have been in touch with our global partners in conflict zones around the world, renewing our commitment to work together for human rights and peace. Heavy on our hearts is the current situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, particularly following the declaration by President Trump regarding Jerusalem.

KAIROS' long standing policy on Jerusalem seeks a city that is open and shared, the place of two peoples—Israeli and Palestinian, and of three faiths-- Jews, Christians and Muslims. In seeking a just peace, we believe the special status of Jerusalem must be decided through fair negotiations.

We very much appreciated your confirmation that the Canada's Embassy in Israel will remain in Tel Aviv, and will not be moved to Jerusalem. We urge Canada to stay firm on the need for a just and negotiated resolution to the status of Jerusalem and ask that as a Government we refrain from issuing any statements which might prejudice this status quo or future negotiations. Canada's diplomatic leadership towards just and sustained peace in the Middle East is welcome and required.

Please be confident of our prayers for you in the challenging work of leadership in Canada, and in your contribution to leadership in the global community.

In hopeful anticipation of the blessings of Christmas,

Fay Edmonds, GSIC
Chair of the KAIROS Steering Committee

Cc: The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Minister for Foreign Affairs
The Honourable Erin O'Toole, Foreign Affairs Critic, Conservative Party of Canada
Hélène Laverdière, Foreign Affairs Critic, New Democratic Party
Elizabeth May, Leader, Green Party of Canada
Rhéal Fortin, Leader, Bloc Québécois
Jennifer Henry, Executive Director, KAIROS