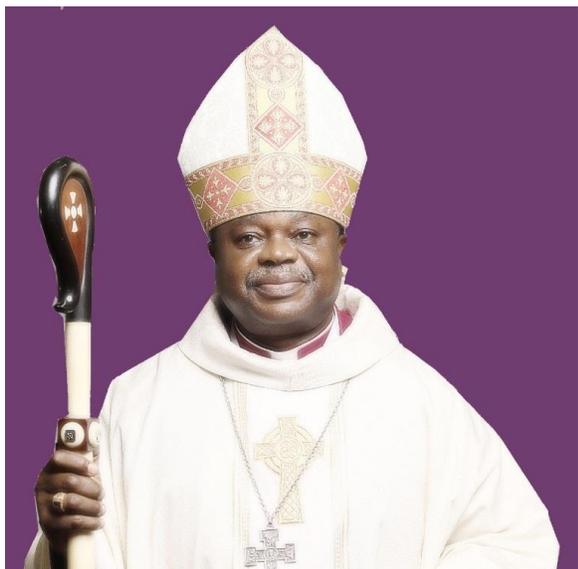


The Christmas and New Year Greetings From the Eastern and Coastal Diocese in ELCT.



Bishop, Rev. Dr. Alex Gehaz Malasusa,

The Bishop of the Eastern and Coastal Diocese.

Dear partners, I greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus. Praise be to Jesus Christ who is our Savior.

I thank God that in this year we have had the opportunity to visit and see each other after Covid-19 pandemic shutdown. Through it all, I have learned to trust and obey God because without Him we would not make it to this day. We truly thank God for His kindness and love in our lives.

I also, thank God for the peace and steadiness given to us in providing a friendly environment for worship. Although, I realize the difficulties which some of the partners are going through due to the effect of the Russia, Ukraine war. I pray that, the coming Lord Jesus may He restore harmony and peace among these countries.

Moreover, I am asking you to keep praying for peace recovery in particular places. May God lift up the right people who will bring reconciliation between these nations.

Let's use the season of Christmas and New Year to raise our voices so that peace, healing, and tranquility reign in our communities. May our voices be the seed of peace in our families, communities, and nations as a whole.

I now consent with prophet Isaiah 9:6 who said, *“For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace”* Let us welcome this, “Eternal Father and Prince of Peace; Jesus Christ in our hearts.

**Wishing You,
Happy Christmas and happy New Year.**

**Let us continue strengthening our partnerships
through transparency and commitment.**