

Thursday

1:00 pm - 2:40 pm

Standing at the Crossroads

Daniel Bannoura, Munther Isaac, Mae Elise Cannon, Fares Abraham
This opening block frames why we gather: to listen to the call of Palestinian Christians and consider the credibility of the gospel in light of the suffering in Gaza. Through testimony, theological framing, and pastoral invitation, participants are asked: What does faithfulness require at this crossroads?

3:10 pm - 5:15 pm

The Weight of Complicity

Jemar Tisby, Lamma Mansour

This session explores how patterns of silence and complicity take root in the church and distort our call to love. Drawing from the Black church's legacy and Palestinian experience, speakers invite us to turn from avoidance toward a more courageous, embodied solidarity.

5:15 pm - 7:00 pm

Dinner on your own

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Stories that Carry Us

An evening of cultural experience immerses us in Palestinian story, art, and prayer. Through film, traditional crafts, and song, we glimpse a people's resilience and discover how creativity and joy can sustain hope.

Friday

Coffee bar and exhibitor hall open at 8:00 am

9:00 am - 10:30 am

Reading the Bible in the midst of a Genocide

Gary Burge, Tony Deik

How do we read the Bible faithfully in the midst of conflict? In dialogue with Palestinian voices, this session wrestles with questions of land, covenant, and chosenness, pointing us toward the God who calls for justice and mercy.

11:00 am - 12:15 pm

Theology of Nonviolence & Transformation

Diana Oestreich, Lisa Sharon Harper, Preston Sprinkle

What does it mean to live out a faith that resists fear and fosters peace? Speakers invite us to confront harmful theologies and rediscover a vision of the church shaped by the love of Christ and the dignity of all people.

12:15 pm - 1:30 pm

Join us for Lunch

Join us for lunch, chicken strip lunch boxes from <u>Holy Buckets Halal Chicken and Pizza</u>, Lombard, IL. Gluten free option available on request. We thank Christian Holy Land Foundation for sponsoring this lunch.

1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

Breakout Sessions

Christian Zionism, Anti-Arab Racism, and Genocide, with David Crump

When Sacred Texts Terrify: The Challenge of Reading Joshua During a Genocide, with Bruce Fisk

Antisemitism & Islamophobia, with Ben Lorber

Bring the Discussion to your Church: Ascent to Jerusalem: Pilgrimage, Politics, and Peacemaking, with Beth Seversen

Make Your Voice Heard through Political Advocacy, with Hassan El-Tayyab

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Networking, Free Time, and Browsing

Meet our exhibitors, connect with a new friend, call home, visit the prayer room, or just rest.

4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Memory, Imagination, and Joy as Resistance

Ruth Padilla DeBorst, Brian Zahnd

This session presses us to remember difficult stories — biblical and historical — while cultivating prophetic imagination for liberation. The session culminates in a zaffa band leading us into celebration, embodying joy as a form of resistance and hospitality.

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Block Party, Dancing, and Food Trucks

Saturday

Coffee bar and exhibitor hall open at 8:00 am

8:00 am - 9:00 am

Word for the Journey - Morning Bible Study

Breakfast Bible study with Jennifer Maidrand (hosted by Across the Divide)
A contextual Bible study that centers liberation as the goal of reading Scripture together.

9:00 am - 10:00 am

Prophets and Peacemakers

Shane Claiborne, Sandra Van Opstal, Alex Massad

This session confronts the crisis of discipleship revealed by Gaza and calls the church to embody the gospel with courage and hope. Prophetic voices and pastoral leaders point us toward solidarity, peacemaking, and costly love.

10:30 am - 12:15 pm

Responding in Word and Deed

Ben Norquist, Andrew DeCort, Munther Isaac

The conference concludes with the presentation and response to the CATX Declaration, a Palestinian call to the global church, and shared communion. Participants are invited to move from discernment to decision, committing themselves to the costly road of justice and peace.