To Whom It May Concern:

I write to express my enthusiastic support for the publication of Rabbi Shelly Lewis' manuscript, *The Torah of Reconciliation.*

In this book, Rabbi Lewis applies his vast knowledge of sacred Jewish texts, his keen and poetic exegetical sense, and his exquisite rhetorical skill to illuminate Jewish tradition's teachings on peace-making. Rabbi Lewis began this project as a labor of love and faith in the days following September 11th, providing comfort for his congregants and for himself from Jewish tradition's rich sources on the value of peace. The project blossomed over the years of his teaching and preaching, and has grown into a unique compendium of classical Jewish teachings, explicated with grace and inspiration, to offer to the Jewish community and to the world.

The book's introduction offers an overview of Jewish views of peace-making, both theoretical and practical, which is also suggestive of how other religious teachers might probe their own traditions for a range of perspectives on the theory and practice of reconciliation. The body of the book delves into specific Biblical passages, explicated bt the rabbis of the Talmud and by Hasidic masters, elegantly highlighting the implications of a particular text for the process of peace-building.

In today's world, all too many people assume that religion is a primary source of conflict in our war-torn world. Rabbi Lewis is a master teacher of peace-making in the very name of religion. As such, this book not only informs the reader desiring to learn about one religion's perspectives on peace but demonstrates the role that religious texts and religious leaders can play toward healing of the world. I can think of no more crucial message for our world, nor a more beautiful conveyor of this message than this precious book.

Please do not hesitate to be in touch with me if I can be of further help in supporting you in publishing this wonderful work.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Amy Eilberg
Jay Phillips Center for Interfaith Learning
St. Paul, MN