

Der Bischof

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Dear Sisters and Brothers in the Gossner Church!

176 years ago, missionaries of the Gossner Mission from Germany arrived in Ranchi. We thank God that it is possible to celebrate the GELC Mission Day again and that we can celebrate this day together in ecumenical fellowship. We have become brothers and sisters in faith with you and pray for each other. In this way we are united in faith.

We ask you to pray for us, that the Holy Spirit in our Church will strengthen our congregations, especially in these special times of the Corona pandemic, that we will live joyfully in faith. The constituent assembly of the synod of our church in Berlin-Brandenburg-Silesian Upper Lusatia took place this year.

We ask you to pray for our synod members and for our church leadership.

Our congregations and social groups are looking for new ways in our country to build bridges between the gaps in our society.

We want young people to take over responsibility in the congregations together with older people, so that new ideas can develop and experiences can enrich the work of the congregations.

This year we have also elected new leaders in the government of Germany and in the regional parliaments.

We are thankful for the many people who are willing to take responsibility for our state and for society. We are grateful for the development of a free, democratic and diverse society,

We ask you to pray for and with us, so that cohesion and tolerance are maintained in our country and divisions are overcome. That exclusion and contempt for humanity will find no room, and that the ability to compromise will be strengthened.

Pray for and with us that we will find ways of reconciliation and peace, that we will find ways that minorities and those in need of protection will be heard in our society and that we will create a space of common life for all.

We recognise how fast the climate is changing and the threat to our world. Natural disasters show us what we are doing to our environment.

Pray for and with us that we will repent, that we will live not against but for and with creation.

The global Corona pandemic affects us, the whole world and also our partner churches.

Let us pray together for all those suffering from Covid worldwide.

Pray for and with us for comfort for those who suffer and those who grieve.

Those who suffer are often especially the children who are denied educational opportunities. In our world they are the weakest.

Pray with us for children around the world - especially now in times of the Corona pandemic.

You are our God, whom we trust and who strengthens us and helps us. Thanks be to you at every hour through Christ our Lord.

But as for me, my prayer *is* to You,
O Lord, *in* the acceptable time; O God,
in the multitude of Your mercy,
Hear me in the truth of Your salvation.
(Psalm 69:14)

Yours ever



Dr. Christian Stäblein