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Not only do we enjoy fellowship with every Christian of every time and place, but we also seek to reach all people with the Gospel, for not all have heard. One thing that diminishes our ability to share the Good News with all people is language. Since the tower of Babel in Genesis 11, people have spoken different languages. Yet as we learned in Acts 2, the message of the Gospel unites people into the one Body of Christ.

Therefore, we have designated our 2023–2026 LCMS National Offering, “We Preach Christ Crucified for All People,” for the translation of solid biblical Lutheran resources into languages that lack such materials. Whatever you generously contribute to this offering will enable this vital work. We thank God for all those who have labored to translate the Scriptures. You will help provide instructional and doctrinal resources LCMS congregations can use to reach and instruct non-English speakers in His Word.

Our 2019 convention theme verses included Paul’s words, “Pray without ceasing” (1THESS. 5:17). I have made it my habit to pray before I start my day, praying for individuals, members of my congregation, international church leaders, people I have met and, of course, the Synod at large. Many times, the Psalms of David provide the words for my prayers.

I invite you to take this insert home to assist you in your personal or family prayers. Pray for those who translate Lutheran resources, that their labor would produce faithful and beneficial materials for those who use them. Pray for those who receive their work. Pray for our international church partners. Pray for all those who do not know Jesus. Join me in daily prayers, for our Lord has graciously invited us to bring before Him all our concerns, all through Jesus Christ crucified and risen. We preach Christ crucified — for all people.

*Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison*

PRESIDENT, THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD



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## Prayers

### Pray for Christian translators

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**Come, Holy Spirit**, fill the hearts of Your faithful people and kindle in them the fire of Your love. Through the diversity of all tongues, You have gathered the nations in the unity of the faith. Enlighten those who translate. Give wisdom and grace to their words, and be pleased always to work through Your Holy Word to convict of sin, convince us of Christ's righteousness and, by faith, love and hope, beat down Satan under our feet; for You reign with the Father and the Son, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### Pray for the LCMS and our partner churches

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**Gracious Father**, You do not leave us as orphans. You have drawn not only our congregation to Yourself by the cross of Christ, but You have united us with many fellow saints in the confession of Your truth. Be gracious to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and preserve the Gospel among us. Bless us here, that we may bear much fruit, and that our fruit may abide. In the same way, do not let us neglect our brotherhood around the world, who confess the same name of Christ. Let us gain courage from them, seeing how they also are standing firm in the faith, how they also resist the devil and how they also experience the same kinds of suffering. In many peoples, tribes and languages, glorify Your name; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**



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