



THE ARCHBISHOP  
UPPSALA

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Madhya Pradesh  
The Rt Revd Dr Emmanuel Panchoo

Uppsala in October 2015

CHHINDWARA

Dear Brothers and Sisters

“After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, ‘Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!’” (Revelation 7:9-10).

These words of revelation from the early Church are assigned for the upcoming All Saints’ Day in the Swedish Lectionary. They re-echo in my heart with grateful joy as I send you a warm greeting and assure you of my spiritual closeness when you are now gathered to celebrate the ordination of pastors on 1 November 2015.

The ordination of new pastors is always an important event for the Church. On this day the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Madhya Pradesh also demonstrates its desire to ordain women as pastors, and thus enables their skills to lead God’s people in prayer and worship, joining with them in a common witness to the world.

In the Church of Sweden we have 55 years of experience of the ministry of ordained women, therefore it is with great confidence that we pray for blessings on their ministry among you, together with all clergy and laypeople. The promise is that with the Lamb of God as our guide we may have the strength to walk the path of discipleship courageously.

May God bless you all with joy, wisdom and confidence!

Yours in Christ

The Most Revd Dr Antje Jackelén  
Archbishop of Uppsala