



THE ARCHBISHOP
UPPSALA

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Eritrea
P.O. Box 905Ksad Guwa No. 195

Easter Week 2016

ASMARA

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

In this particular festive time, I pray God's rich blessings upon the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Eritrea and its Annual Convention gathered in Addi-Qualla.

For 150 years the ELCE and the Church of Sweden have been united in faith and common ministry in our respective contexts. We who in baptism were made disciples of the Resurrected, we have also been united with one another as members in the one body of Christ. In a world of disharmony and violence, it is obvious that this communion needs to be strengthened through prayer and the sharing of each other's burdens.

I wish to assure you of our spiritual closeness when you now enter the important work of the Annual Convention. May the Resurrected Lord be with you as you embark on the deliberations before you! In the midst of vulnerability and brokenness, let us walk bravely as children of the One who in his resurrection has overcome the powers of death.

In a gospel reading for the Second Sunday of Easter, we hear the voice of the Risen One, as Peter did. He asks: "Do you love me?" As we answer, we may rejoice or tremble, yet the commission is powerful and urgent: "Tend my sheep" (John 21:15-19).

Trusting that the One who calls also will give the energy of the Holy Spirit to pursue the good work, I greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Yours sincerely,

The Most Rev. Dr. Antje Jackelén
Archbishop of Uppsala