



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GHANA
HEAD OFFICE - ACCRA

EASTER GREETINGS **TO THE FAITHFUL AROUND** **THE WORLD AND TO OUR** **ECUMENICAL PARTNERS**



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Dear Friends in the Lord Jesus Christ,

I bring you Greetings from your Brothers and Sisters of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana. As we celebrate this year's Passion and Easter in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, which is affecting life in the world in significant ways, we wish to connect with you, our ecumenical partners and fellow believers in the Lord Jesus Christ in other denominations and different parts of the world, so that, together, we shall lift the light of hope to the world this Easter.

Observing 'social distancing', as we should, in our various countries means avoiding certain closeness in our social encounters. The lockdowns in countries around the world means general isolation for individuals and families. This is necessary to preserve our own life and that of others. Therefore, we can no longer take for granted the physical gathering of the saints for worship and fellowship.

#StayAtHome
#SaveLives



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However, in the midst of these changes and the accompanying uncertainties and discomforts, the Lord who died on the Cross to reconcile us with the Father, and gave us victory over sin and diseases, binds us to himself and to one another. The Lord of the Resurrection is present among us and crosses the 'social distancing' and quarantine barriers, bringing us together as Children of one Father and citizens of his eternal Kingdom.

We in Ghana have every reason to be thankful to God for the guidance, strength and commitment he has given to our President and his team; our frontline health workers; the security services and other supporting groups to lead the country in the efforts to minimize the spread of the corona virus. We continue to pray for protection for them and their families. There have been some infections, which have resulted in some deaths. We pray for the families of the victims and seek God's special protection for them. There are many others who have been infected and are being treated, either at the isolation centres or at the hospital. We pray for their speedy recovery and the preservation of their loved ones.

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We wish to congratulate Ghanaians and other nationals living in Ghana for their cooperation with the government, health authorities and state security agencies in enforcing the partial lockdown of the country. The readiness of the public to observe general hygiene and social distancing protocols has contributed immensely to the relative success of the government's strategy to fight the pandemic. For this, we commend the public. We urge even greater cooperation and show of commitment in the days ahead.

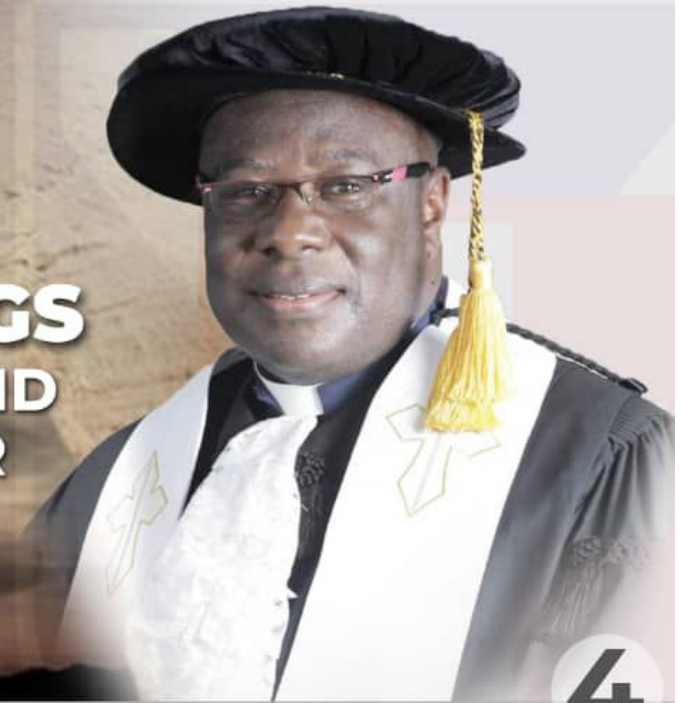
We further appreciate the government's great and meaningful economic and social support offered to the general public and residents in areas affected by the lockdown. These include picking up some utility bills; direct supply of food to the needy; granting of tax reliefs to frontline health and security personnel as well as supplying the needed logistics to health and other frontline workers.

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The regular engagement of the public by the President and his team is commendable as it helps minimize speculation and rumor-mongering. All this seems to be driven by the strong life-affirming philosophy espoused by the President in one of his broadcast speeches to the nation: "We know how to bring the economy back to life. What we do not know is how to bring people back to life."

The President and his government led the state to acknowledge the love of God and his supremacy in all matters by inviting heads of churches and other Christian leaders to intercede for the country and the world at the Jubilee House, the seat of government. National Days of Prayer were also declared for the various faith communities to intercede. We know the healing power of God, and we believe this powerful demonstration of faith will be honoured.

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