

**COMMUNION OF CHURCHES IN INDIA (CCI)
CSI, CNI, MAR THOMA UNITY SUNDAY (NOVEMBER 12, 2023)**

LITURGY

(Approved by the Mar Thoma Metropolitan)

CALL TO WORSHIP

As God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are one, we are partakers of the one bread and the one cup. We are children of the same Spirit through the Church and in Christ. Come! Through this worship, let us become partakers of the spirituality of unity and grow to the fullness of communion by forgetting the divisiveness and differences to share in God's grace.

HYMN

KAUMA

OPENING PRAYER

Father God, the meaning and perfection of all and the essence and prospect of everything, we rejoice in the excellence of your creative process and bow before its majesty. You are the author of everything. We admit that we are nothing before your divine providence.

We open our hearts to your mercy to regain the lost glory of the universe which was lost due to sin through the sacrifice on the Cross, who without clinging equality with God, formed the glory of servanthood. Merciful God, you put an end to all divisions and sectarian thinking in us, by your death on the cross by breaking down the dividing wall.

O Triune God, just as the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are one, establish the unity of the Holy Church. May we all be filled with the Holy Spirit and may we be given the grace to live a life worthy of the praise and glory of your Holy Name. Amen.

REPENTANCE

(Response: O God, forgive us)

Leader: While all living beings have the right to live in this universe, we have exploited them for our pleasure and our advantages, denying them their right to life, trying to appropriate resources and thereby disrupting God's plan and will.

Response: O God, forgive us

Leader: Although we are members of the Church, the body of Christ, we have wounded the Holy Body through our divisive thinking, hatred and enmity and forgot the divine vocation in the Holy Church.

Response: O God, forgive us

Leader: When we are given the responsibility to spread the justice and righteousness of the Kingdom of God in the world, we have forgotten justice and righteousness in our living spaces and thus offended God and thereby ignored the pain of humanity.

Response: O God, forgive us.

PRAYER OF THANKS GIVING

(Response: We thank you)

Leader: Lord, we thank you for giving us the experiences of unity in the name of Christ, who is the head of the body, the church.

Response: We thank you.

Leader: Lord, we thank you for preparing the churches to be partakers of the unity in Christ through the Holy Baptism and the sacrificial offering of Holy Qurbana.

Response: We thank you.

Leader: Lord, we thank you for pouring the charismatic vision through the diversity and differences of the church to serve God's Kingdom

Response: We thank you.

Leader: Lord, we thank you for preparing ecumenical gatherings and platforms on the national and regional levels in the church for evangelism and witnessing.

Response: We thank you.

Leader: Lord, we thank you for all Christian churches in India, especially for CSI, CNI and Mar Thoma churches and for their traditions, evangelical visions and mission initiatives.

Response: We thank you.

Leader: Lord, we thank you for the expression of church unity through the Communion of Churches in India, which bring more energy to the vision of the Kingdom of God and all the activities during the CCI Jubilee period.

Response: We thank you.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

(Response: We beseech Thee)

1. O God, we remember the socio - political conditions of violence, injustice and corruption, especially for the areas where there are conflicts and for the interventions needed to solve these issues.

Response: We beseech Thee

2. O God, we pray for the war-torn nations and places of the world, and for people whose lives are hampered by famine, natural disasters and economic insecurity...

Response: We beseech Thee

3. O God, we pray for the landless people, the orphans, the debt ridden, the evicted, and the homeless due to confiscating.

Response: We beseech Thee

4. O God, we also remember the work of CCI, a joint initiative of CSI, CNI and Mar Thoma Churches. For all who give leadership, especially the Moderators of CSI and CNI and the Metropolitan of the Mar Thoma Church, for the Executive Secretary, the Treasurer, the Committee Members and the Officers of the Member churches.

Response: We beseech Thee

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God of unity and reconciliation, perfect us in your unity as the one God in Trinity. We submit ourselves to your commands and holy will. Spread your thoughts and interests in us. Let us not be ruled by any will other than your will. We ask through Jesus Christ. Amen.