Patriarch Kirill's Paschal greetings to the heads of non-Orthodox Churches

His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia has sent Paschal greetings to the heads of non-Orthodox Churches, including Pope Francis, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians Karekin II, Archbishop Justin Welby of the Anglican Communion, Bishop Dr. Heinrich Bedford-Strohm, chair of the Council of the Evangelical Church in Germany. The text is given below:

CHRIST IS RISEN!

I wholeheartedly greet you with the bright feast of Pascha of Christ.

On these holy days replete with the universal joy over the Risen Saviour we are called to bring the good news of the most important event in the history of humanity to the world and witness before those near and those far about the unalterable Gospel values and ideals. Our Lord Jesus Christ has endured passions on the Cross and martyr's death but has conquered death and corruption so that we might walk after the Spirit (cf. Rom 6:4), be raised 'to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, and that fadeth not away' (1 Pet 1:4) and 'our faith and hope might be in God' (1 Pet 1:21).

I wish you strength and fortitude and God's all-bountiful help in your responsible ministry.

With love in the risen Christ,

+ KIRILL

Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia

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