



Ich bete für meine Kirche 2019

April 28 to May 4

Reutlingen School of Theology

May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ be blessed! On account of his vast mercy, he has given us new birth. You have been born anew into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. (1 Peter 1:3)

Alive and well!

A joyful comeback! The Easter resurrection is not so much a matter between God the Father and his son Jesus Christ; not in the first instance something which shakes the world to its foundations. No, it is above all an event which affects me, stirs me and changes me. Through the resurrection at Easter, God creates me anew. He transforms me into a different person. This is not a human achievement. It happens from above, at God's initiative. Neither can it be earned. It has to do with the Word of God, with the Gospel and its acceptance.

This transformation, which makes people anew, gives one hope that everything – even when it's not obvious – lies in God's hand. It is, therefore, good -

or will be good in the end. This hope is not the last thing to die (as claimed in that annoying pessimistic saying). This hope is alive! It is active and infectious – so that fear is turned into trust. This hope takes us through death and beyond. It makes a mockery of death (Martin Luther)! For all of this, is God to be praised. This does not overlook the burden of the challenges to this truth. They are just drowned out by the sound of praise, rooted in faith. A joyful comeback!

Christof Voigt

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I GIVE THANKS

- for the happily large number of students from various countries and different spiritual backgrounds
- for the good conditions for study, which both the church and the school have provided
- for the hope which God has given to mankind through his son Jesus Christ

I PRAY

- for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in the question of setting up a further course which majors on "Theology and Social Work"
- for wisdom and courage concerning the building plans
- for all the people who live and work at the Reutlingen School of Theology

Reutlingen School of Theology (RST)

The RST is the institution of theological higher education of the UMC in Germany, Switzerland & Austria. It continues in a 150 year old tradition of training church leaders. In 2005 the RST became a federally accredited university, and can award internationally recognized BA and MA degrees. The community presently consists of 70 students, 7 professors, 5 teachers and 7 colleagues in the house & administration work.

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