



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

**SPEECH DELIVERED BY**

**HIS EXCELLENCY DR. EDGAR CHAGWA LUNGU,  
THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA,**

**AT**

**THE INDUCTION SERVICE OF THE REV. CHIPASHA  
MUSABA AS GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE UNITED  
CHURCH OF ZAMBIA**

**AT ST MARKS CONGREGATION, CHILENJE, LUSAKA.**

**SUNDAY, 13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020**

**STATE HOUSE**

**LUSAKA**

- **YOUR GRACE REVEREND BISHOP SYDNEY SICHILIMA, SYNOD BISHOP, UNITED CHURCH OF ZAMBIA;**
- **CABINET MINISTERS;**
- **THE MAYOR OF THE GREATER CITY OF LUSAKA;**
- **MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT;**
- **SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS;**
- **FORMER SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS**
- **PRESBYTERY BISHOP;**
- **SYNOD HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS;**
- **MEMBERS OF THE CLERGY PRESENT;**
- **MEMBERS OF THE PRESS;**
- **DISTINGUISHED INVITED GUESTS;**
- **CONGREGANTS.**

I AM HONOURED TO OFFICIATE AT THIS VERY IMPORTANT INDUCTION SERVICE FOR REVEREND CHIPASHA MUSABA AS GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF ZAMBIA. THIS HAS COME BARELY A MONTH AFTER I ATTENDED THE UNITED CHURCH OF ZAMBIA FAREWELL AND RETIREMENT SERVICE OF REVEREND DR. KABONDE.

### **YOUR GRACE,**

I ALSO NOTE FROM YOUR INVITATION THAT THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF ZAMBIA GUIDES THAT THE GENERAL SECRETARY MUST BE INDUCTED WITHIN 90 DAYS UPON TAKING OFFICE. THIS IS A CLEAR DEMONSTRATION THAT THE UNITED CHURCH OF ZAMBIA RESPECTS ITS OWN RULES AND REGULATIONS.

SINCE 16<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 1965, THE UNITED CHURCH OF ZAMBIA LEADERSHIP HAS BEEN PEACEFULLY CHANGING LEADERSHIP HANDS, A PRACTICE THAT CANNOT BE TAKEN FOR GRANTED. YOU HAVE INDEED ESTABLISHED YOURSELVES AS A PEACEFUL ORGANISATIONAL TRANSITIONING MODEL.

**BROTHERS AND SISTERS,**

MY GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS YOUR CHURCH A STRATEGIC PARTNER IN CARRYING OUT SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND IT SHALL CONTINUE TO COLLABORATE WITH YOU AT VARIOUS LEVELS.

FOR EXAMPLE, LAST WEEK WEDNESDAY, 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2020 MY GOVERNMENT WAS USING YOUR CHIPEMBI COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE GROUNDS TO LAUNCH THE FISP PROGRAMME IN CHIEF CHAMUKA'S CHIEFDOM. I, THEREFORE, LOOK FORWARD TO STRENGTHENING SUCH COLLABORATIONS IN AREAS OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH AND EDUCATION.

**BROTHERS AND SISTERS,**

TRANSITIONS IN LIFE ARE USUALLY CRITICAL MOMENTS. WE ARE GATHERED HERE TODAY TO WITNESS THE CHANGE OF LEADERSHIP HANDS AND OUR PRAYER IS FOR A FRESH AND PEACEFUL TRANSITION.

WE ARE CONFIDENT OF THIS FRESH AND PEACEFUL TRANSITION BECAUSE THE CHURCH ALREADY HAS A STRONG LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION PLAN. THIS IS AN INDICATION THAT GOD-GIVEN LEADERSHIP DOES NOT COME WITH COMPLICATIONS. I WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE THE CHURCH LEADERSHIP FOR UPHOLDING THIS LEGACY.

**BROTHERS AND SISTERS,**

THE RESPONSIBILITY THAT HAS BEEN BESTOWED ON REVEREND MUSABA TODAY IS MASSIVE. THE REVEREND IS EXPECTED TO HARNESS RESOURCES THAT HAVE BEEN ENTRUSTED TO HIS CARE FOR THE NEXT FOUR YEARS AS GENERAL SECRETARY. HOWEVER, WE SHOULD ALL REALISE THAT REVEREND MUSABA CAN NOT DO THIS ALONE BUT THIS CALLS FOR SUPPORT OF THE LEADERS AND CHURCH MEMBERS.

HIS PREDECESSOR, REVEREND DR. PEGGY KABONDE WAS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF A LEADER THAT HAD A STRONG SUPPORT INSTITUTION. SHE EXCELLED BEYOND OUR EXPECTATIONS. I AM CONFIDENT THAT HER SUCCESSOR WILL EQUALLY EXCEL WITH YOUR SUPPORT. THE SUCCESS OF A LEADER IS THE SUCCESS OF THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY. SIMILARLY, THE FAILURE OF A LEADER IS THE FAILURE OF AN ENTIRE COMMUNITY. WE SHOULD THEREFORE, BEAR IN MIND THAT THE WORK OF GOD NEEDS ALL THE PEOPLE TO WORK IN UNITY.

## **YOUR GRACE,**

TODAY THE CHURCH NEEDS LEADERS OF UNWAVERING LOYALTY AND COMMITMENT TO A CAUSE THEY BELIEVE IN. SUCH LOYALTY AND COMMITMENT ONLY COME FROM GOD. I WISH TO ENCOURAGE REVEREND MUSABA, THAT YOU ARE NOT ALONE. YOU ARE SURROUNDED BY A LARGE CROWD OF CHAMPIONS WHO WILL BE READY TO CHEER YOU UP AND SUPPORT YOU.

THROUGHOUT THE BIBLE, THERE WAS NO MAJOR DELIVERANCE, VICTORY OR ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF GOD'S PEOPLE WITHOUT THE ROLE OF A LEADER. THIS IS A BIG TASK ON YOUR HAND WHICH YOU SHOULD EMBRACE WITH FAITH IN GOD. YOUR CALLING AS A LEADER SHOULD GO BEYOND REPROACH BECAUSE YOU ARE A LEADER FOR EVERYBODY. THERE SHOULD BE NO DISCRIMINATION ON TRIBAL OR REGIONAL GROUNDS.

SPECIAL LEADERS IN THE BIBLE ALWAYS CARRIED SPECIAL ANNOINTING FOR THE TASK AT HAND. THE ANOINTING YOU HAVE TODAY IS ENOUGH TO SEE YOU THROUGH YOUR YEARS OF SERVICE AS A GENERAL SECRETARY.

I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE COMMENCEMENT OF YOUR FIRST TERM AS GENERAL SECRETARY OF THIS GREAT CHURCH WILL LEAD TO ACCELERATED DEVELOPMENT AND GREAT GROWTH.

HOWEVER, REMEMBER THAT YOUR OFFICE ALSO BRINGS ALONG WITH IT CHALLENGES WHICH YOU HAVE TO FACE. AS A LEADER YOU SHOULD ALWAYS FIND WAYS OF RESOLVING MATTERS AMICABLY. RESOLVING MATTERS IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF LEADERSHIP. YOU WILL ALSO UTILISE THE STRATEGIES YOUR PREDECESSOR AND THOSE WHO WENT AHEAD OF YOU UTILISED.

### **BROTHERS AND SISTERS,**

THE NEW SEASON FOR THE UNITED CHURCH OF ZAMBIA IS ABOUT TO BE LAUNCHED TODAY, AND IT WILL BE ANOTHER PRECIOUS STONE TO MARVEL AT.

TODAY, I AM HAPPY TO SEE LIBERATED, EMPOWERED AND ENCOURAGED MEMBERS OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF ZAMBIA BOTH YOUNG AND OLD SERVING GOD IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF LOVE, PEACE AND RIGHTEOUSNESS.

I SEE THIS GREAT CHURCH PROVIDE A STRONGER LEADERSHIP LEGACY AND WITH MOTIVATED MEMBERS AND CHURCH WORKERS. IT IS ALSO MY SINCERE HOPE THAT MEMBERS OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF ZAMBIA WILL HAVE GREAT INFLUENCE OVER OTHER CHRISTIANS IN THE LAND OF ZAMBIA.

### **BROTHERS AND SISTERS,**

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF ZAMBIA, YOU HAVE TODAY A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO EXCEL AND REFUSE TO BOW TO THE NORM AND THE STATUS QUO. LET US RISE ABOVE OUR CHALLENGES LIKE THE EAGLE IN THE SKY AND BENEFIT THE SOCIETY WE LIVE IN.

FINALLY, I WISH TO REMIND YOU THAT THE PEACE OF THE NATION IS THE PEACE OF THE CHURCH, **PLEASE PRAY FOR THE NATION WITHOUT CEASING AS THE 2021 GENERAL ELECTIONS APPROACH.** JUST AS WE ARE ADVISED IN 1 TIMOTHY 2:1-3, AND I QUOTE:

***“I URGE THEN FIRST OF ALL THAT PETITIONS, PRAYERS, INTERCESSION AND THANKSGIVING BE MADE FOR ALL PEOPLE -FOR KINGS AND ALL THOSE IN AUTHORITY, THAT WE MAY LIVE PEACEFUL AND QUIET LIVES IN ALL GODLINESS AND HOLINESS. THIS IS GOOD AND PLEASES GOD OUR SAVIOUR”.***

I WISH TO NOW EXTEND MY CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF ZAMBIA, REVEREND CHIPASHA MUSABA. MAY GOD ALMIGHTY SEE YOU THROUGH AS YOU TAKE UP THIS OFFICE.

LET ME ALSO THANK ALL MEMBERS OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF ZAMBIA FOR MAKING THIS DAY A REALITY.

GOD BLESS THE UNITED CHURCH OF ZAMBIA, GOD BLESS ZAMBIA.

I THANK YOU