



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Disciples Ecumenical Consultative Council Welcomes the Election of Pope Leo XIV**

*Indianapolis, USA* — The Disciples Ecumenical Consultative Council (DECC), the global fellowship of the Disciples of Christ, joyfully welcomes the election of Pope Leo XIV as the 267th Bishop of Rome and leader of the Roman Catholic Church.

Pope Leo XIV, formerly Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost, offered a powerful message from the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica, calling the Church to peace, justice, and unity—values that resonate deeply with the Disciples of Christ and the mission of the DECC. His vision of a “Church that builds bridges” echoes the spirit of dialogue and reconciliation at the heart of our communion's witness.

Since 1978, the Disciples of Christ and the Roman Catholic Church have been engaged in a sustained and fruitful bilateral dialogue. In that spirit of friendship and shared witness, we look forward to deepening our commitment to visible unity between our two communions under Pope Leo XIV's leadership.

As a Table-centered communion seeking wholeness in a fragmented world, we pray that the Holy Spirit will guide this new season of ministry. May God bless Pope Leo XIV and all who labor for the unity of the Church.

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