

Prayer service for the persecuted Christians

Everyone is welcome when – for the eighth year in a row – a prayer service is held for the world’s persecuted Christians. It will take place in Viborg Cathedral on 14 November 2021 at 16.30.

In every third country in the world, serious violations of religious freedom take place every day. In many places, the situation has only worsened during the past year, when the corona crisis has been used as a reason to tighten the grip on religious minorities. This is the case in China, where an assembly ban and a ban on using social media for worship and prayer have hit churches and other religious groups hard.

Focus on China

The prayer service in Viborg Cathedral is an opportunity to show solidarity with the many Christians who are currently experiencing persecution and discrimination. The service will be led by Bishop Henrik Stubbkjær, and the sermon will be given by Bitten Høgh, who has lived and worked in China for 27 years. Over the years, she has helped more than 5,000 farming families and more than 30 villages become sustainable. In 2005, she received an award from the China Chamber of Commerce and the China Women's Union, and in 2013, she received the UNDP Award for bringing positive change to China.

Candle lighting and music

The service begins with a procession where people from different countries carry lights up through the church. During the service, it will be possible to receive Holy Communion and light a candle as a prayer for the persecuted Christians of the world. The asylum choir from “Udrejsecenter Kærshovedgård” will participate in the service, which is simultaneously translated into both English and Farsi.

Sandwich after the service

All participants will receive a small wooden cross as they leave the church as an encouragement to keep praying for the persecuted Christians. After the service, everyone is welcome to go to the parish house next to the Cathedral, where sandwiches are served. Bitten Høgh will also tell a little more about her work in China.

A planning group under *the Diocesan Committee for the Church in the World, Viborg Diocese*, is responsible for the service and the event afterwards.



More info:

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