AMENDED CONSTITUTION OF
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH IN THE PHILIPPINES

P R E A M B L E

We, Lutheran Christians in the Republic of the Philippines do hereby establish and aim to maintain, with God’s help, a corporate body united in faith and love.

ARTICLE ONE: NAME

The name of this corporate body shall be: THE LUTHERAN CHURCH IN THE PHILIPPINES, Inc.

ARTICLE TWO: CONFESSION

Section 1. Every congregation and clergyman of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines shall accept without reservation the canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the divinely inspired, written Word of God and as such the only rule of faith and norm of life and practice.

Section 2. Every congregation and clergyman of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines shall also accept without reservation the following confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church as true and accurate statements and expositions of the Word of God:

a. The Three Universal Christian Creeds (the Apostles’ Creed, the Nicene Creed, the Athanasian Creed);
b. The Small Catechism of Martin Luther;
c. The Unaltered Augsburg Confession;
d. The Large Catechism of Martin Luther;
e. The Apology of the Augsburg Confession;
f. The Smalcald Articles of Martin Luther;
g. Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope;
h. The Epitome of the Formula of Concord;
i. The Solid Declaration of the Formula of Concord.
ARTICLE THREE: OBJECTIVES

The Lutheran Church in the Philippines shall adopt the following:

Section 1. Vision – “A leading missionary church in the Philippines and abroad.” This defines the role of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines in the area of world evangelization.

Section 2. Mission – “We commit ourselves to strengthening and equipping of God’s people in the area of witness, worship, fellowship, nurture and service.” The commitment of the Church as it anchors its witness, worship, fellowship nurture and service to the pure and infallible of the Word of God.

A. In Terms of Witness:
   1. Christians who actively demonstrate their faith in God and their concern for fellowmen by testifying to that faith in word and deed.
   2. Christians who pray and work for the extension and coming of God’s Kingdom throughout the world.
   3. People confronted with the demands of God’s law and His gracious offer of forgiveness in Jesus Christ.
   4. Christian who actively participate in doing mission as expansion of the Kingdom of God.

B. In Terms of Fellowship / Worship:
   1. Christians who worship and serve God both individually and corporately.
   2. Christians who continue in the study of God’s Word, are engaged in the training of the young, and promote growth in Christian knowledge.
   3. Christians who recognize the bond of faith which unites all believers in Christ, and express that unity in cooperation with each other.
   4. Christians who regularly gather around the Word and Sacrament.

C. In Terms of Service:
   1. Individual Christians who recognize and respond to the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of others.
   2. Congregations whose members serve their society and nation by active participation in community affairs and specific acts of mercy and love.
   3. A church group which both by itself and through united action with others endeavors to fulfill its obligation to the suffering and needy of this world.
   4. Christians who put faith into action in line with the Core Values.
D. In Terms of Stewardship/Support:
1. Individual Christians who recognizes their spiritual and material blessings for the furtherance of the Kingdom of God.
2. Christian Stewards who are responsible and accountable in the management of all that belongs to God which includes among others the time, talent and treasure that God bestowed.
3. Individual Christians who generously supports continuously the socio-economic development effort of the Church.

E. In Terms of Nurture:
1. A Christian Church that endeavors to continuously teach the Word of God in its purity to deepen the believers’ relationship with God.
2. A Christian Church that continuously teaches children and youth about God as He revealed Himself through the Word and Sacrament and to create an environment in which they grow and develop in faith and obedience, reverent worship, boldness in witness, responsible stewards and a believer that put faith into action.
3. A Christian Church that fosters the spiritual development which encompasses all factors involved in the total process of developing a mature and wholistic Christian living.

Section 3. Core Values – “Steadfastness in the Word, Christian Education, Humility in service, Compassion and Mercy, Zealousness, Generosity, Integrity, Transparency and Accountability. This is how the Church conducts itself in the midst of the world as it pursues its Vision and Mission.

ARTICLE FOUR: DUTIES AND POWERS

The Lutheran Church in the Philippines shall:

Section 1. Purchase, hold title, to administer, develop or dispose of all corporate property of every description in the interest of the corporate membership.

Section 2. Accept, hold, administer, or dispose of legacies, donations, and every document entrusted into its care in the interest of the corporate membership.

Section 3. Protect the rights and interests of its members.

Section 4. Assist its members in carrying out their local responsibilities and be the organization through which the fulfillment of the corporate responsibilities of the total membership is administered.

Section 5. Establish such offices, agencies, boards, departments, and committees as it may find necessary and abolish the same as it may find necessary.
Section 6. Call its officers to account and, if circumstances warrant, remove them from office.

ARTICLE FIVE: MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Lutheran Church in the Philippines shall be acquired by congregations and clergymen who accept and confess the confessional basis in Article Two and who have met the requirements as prescribed in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE SIX: GOVERNMENT

The Lutheran Church in the Philippines shall have a representative form of government. Delegates and officers are given the authority to act on behalf of the members and to make decision in their stead. Therefore, not under coercion but in a spirit of Christian cooperation, all members are expected to carry out official resolutions as long as they are in accord with the Word of God and the provisions of this Constitution.

ARTICLE SEVEN: CONVENTION

Section 1. The Lutheran Church in the Philippines shall meet in regular Convention during the month of October every three (3) years.
Section 2. Two-thirds of the voting delegates shall constitute a quorum.
Section 3. Special Conventions may be called as prescribed in the By Laws.

ARTICLE EIGHT: REPRESENTATION AT CONVENTION

The members of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines shall be represented at Conventions by lay and clergy delegates from each district as prescribed in the By-laws. Representatives in Convention shall have the authority to elect officers and to act on behalf of the members.

ARTICLE NINE: OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines shall be: The President, Vice President and Secretary who shall be elected by the Convention. The Treasurer who shall be appointed by the President with the confirmation of the Board of Directors and in no way related up to the fourth civil degree of consanguinity or affinity. And such officers as may be specified in the By-Laws.
Section 2. The President and Vice President must be ordained clergymen of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines.

Section 3. All officers shall be communicants of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines.

Section 4. The term of office for the President, Vice President and Secretary shall be three (3) years or until their successors are duly elected and qualified. Provided: such term shall not exceed for three (3) consecutive terms.

Section 5. The LCP President after his term shall still receive financial support from LCP but not to exceed for One Year. Such support shall be determined by the LCP-BD.

ARTICLE TEN: OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF LCP

Section 1. Election of Officers of LCP:
   a. Election of officers shall be conducted at every regular Convention of LCP.
   b. The LCP Board of Directors shall appoint one of the floor committees of the Convention as “Committee on Elections.”
   c. The Committee on Election shall conduct and supervise the elections according to parliamentary procedure.
   d. Laymen and clergymen who are not delegates to a Convention but are recognized member of LCP shall be eligible for election to any office in LCP for which they qualify.
   e. A majority of votes cast shall be required to elect the President, Vice President, and Secretary. For elections of other elective positions, a plurality of votes is sufficient.
   f. The President, Vice President and Secretary shall be elected in Convention. The Vice President and Secretary shall come from among the members of the in-coming Board of Directors from the districts. However: the President shall not necessarily be among the members of the in-coming Board of Directors from the districts.
   g. If a District Officer is elected to the office of LCP President and accepts that office, he shall resign his District Office.
   h. Newly elected officers of LCP shall assume office immediately after Conventions.
   i. If an elected officer of LCP is unable to complete his term of office the Board of Directors shall elect a replacement to serve the unexpired term.
Section 2. Composition of the Board of Directors of the LCP:
   a. The Board of Directors shall be composed of the President of the LCP, and the President and Lay representative of each District. Provided: However; that the President of the Philippine Lutheran Women’s League (PLWL) and the President of the Philippine Lutheran Youth League (PLYL) shall be represented as Ex-Officio member. Provided: Further; that if there is a change of representation in between Convention, the in-coming respective Presidents or duly authorized representatives shall serve the unexpired term.
   b. Newly elected members of the LCP Board of Directors shall assume their positions immediately after LCP Conventions or the October LCP Board of Directors’ meeting in the year in which they were elected.

ARTICLE ELEVEN: DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE OFFICERS

Section 1. In general: Officers of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines shall exercise such authority or powers as have been conferred upon them by this Constitution and its By-laws. In everything pertaining to their rights and the performance of their duties, they are responsible to the Lutheran Church in the Philippines.

Section 2. In particular:
   a. Duties and Powers of the President:

   The President shall be the spiritual shepherd, chief administrator, and official spokesman of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines; and as such he shall:

   1. Be invested with executive powers and supervisory duties as prescribed in the By-laws.
   2. Be responsible for the supervision of doctrine in the Lutheran Church in the Philippines.
   3. Serve as Chairman of the Board of Directors and see to it that resolutions of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines and of its Board of Directors are carried out.
   4. Preside at all sessions of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines in Convention.
   5. Give a report of his administration at each convention of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines.
   7. The President shall represent the LCP upon the invitation of partner churches, agencies, councils, synods or other coincidental representations.
8. The President shall be given full authority to sign land titles in the name of LCP, enter into a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU)/ Memorandum Of Agreement (MOA) or contracts and sign pertinent legal papers and documents.

9. Perform any other duties which the Lutheran Church in the Philippines may assign to him through its By-laws or by special resolution.

b. Duties and Powers of the Vice-President:

1. The Vice President of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines shall serve as Vice-chairman of the Board of Directors.
2. In case the office of the President becomes vacant, the Vice-President shall assume the office of the President.
3. The Vice-President shall, upon request of the President advise, assist, or represent the President.
4. The Vice-President shall perform any other duties which the Lutheran Church in the Philippines may assign to him through its By-laws or by special resolution.

c. Duties and Powers of the Secretary:

1. The Secretary of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines shall also serve as Secretary of the Board of Directors.
2. The Secretary shall be responsible for the proper recording, printing, and distribution of Convention resolutions and resolutions of the Board of Directors of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines.
3. The Secretary shall be responsible for drawing up official papers, instruments, and documents of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines for endorsement and signature by the President and shall attest such documents.
4. The Secretary shall keep on file all official papers, instruments, and documents of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines.
5. The Secretary shall perform any other duties which the Lutheran Church in the Philippines may assign to him through its By-laws or by special resolution.

d. Duties and Powers of the Treasurer:

1. The Treasurer is the custodian of all the moneys and negotiable papers of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines and shall:
2. Keep an exact record of all monies received and expended by the Lutheran Church in the Philippines.
3. Administer the financial affairs of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines according to its instructions.

4. Submit to an examination of his books at any time by auditors designated by the Lutheran Church in the Philippines.

5. Serve as advisory member of the Board of Directors with regards to expenditures and financial related matters.

6. Perform any other duties which the Lutheran Church in the Philippines may assign to him through its By-laws or by special resolution.

ARTICLE TWELVE: DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE BOARD DIRECTORS

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall be the legal representative of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines and the custodian of its property.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall act for and in behalf of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines between Conventions with full authority in all official matters, limited only by the Constitution, By-laws, and Convention resolutions of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines.

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall meet as prescribed in the By-laws.

ARTICLE THIRTEEN: DISTRICTS

The Lutheran Church in the Philippines shall be divided into administrative Districts in order to facilitate planning and the implementation of its objectives.

Section 1. The boundaries of each district shall be determined by the Lutheran Church in the Philippines in Convention.

Section 2. Each district shall be governed by this Constitution and its By-laws.

Section 3. Each district may adopt additional By-laws as long as they are do not in conflict with this Constitution and its By-laws.

Section 4. Each district may initiate plans and implement them in its own district, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines.

Section 5. Each district shall carry out the directives of the Board of Directors of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines.

Section 6. The elective officers of each district shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Lay Representative and alternate lay representative and such other officers as may be specified in the By-laws.

Section 7. The term of office of all elected officers of each district shall not exceed for two consecutive terms.
ARTICLE FOURTEEN: CHURCH DISCIPLINE

Cases of church discipline shall be dealt with as prescribed in the By-laws.

ARTICLE FIFTEEN: AMENDMENTS, CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THIS CONSTITUTION.

Section 1. Amendments, changes, or additions to this Constitution maybe made, provided that they are not in conflict with Article Two of this Constitution, the By-Laws and Article of Incorporation nor with the laws and Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines.

Section 2. Proposed amendments, changes, or additions must be submitted in writing, to all members three months before the Lutheran Church in the Philippines meets in Convention. For adoption, two-thirds (2/3) of all registered delegates must vote in favor of proposal to amend, change, or make additions to this Constitution.

Section 3. Immediately after adoption by the Lutheran Church in the Philippines in Convention, any amendments, changes, or additions, shall be made-known to all members through the publication of official resolutions.

Section 4. Unless one-third of the members of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines file a vote of dissent with the President of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines within a period of six calendar months following adjournment of the Convention, any amendments, changes, or additions shall become effective and shall be announced the president.

ARTICLE SIXTEEN: TRANSITORY PROVISION

This Amended LCP Constitution shall be effective after its approval and adoption.

Approved and adopted by 2/3 votes of the official LCP delegates this ___ day of October, 2020 at #4461 Old Sta. Mesa, Manila.