

# RELIGIOUS LEADERS' STATEMENT

*"[God] has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"*—Micah 6:8

As followers of Christ, we believe it is possible to build the moral and political will to end hunger by 2030. The world has made unprecedented progress against hunger, poverty, and disease in recent decades. The United States has made progress more slowly than many other countries, but it is feasible to end hunger here, too. The nations of the world, including the United States, have committed themselves to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, which include the goal of ending hunger by 2030.

Sustainable progress against hunger is hardly a given. Between 2015 and 2017, the number of people who were hungry increased by 44 million people—more than twice the population of Florida. Many of those who suffer hunger lack access to food because of five interconnected injustices: irregular access to nutritious food, inadequate and unreliable income, gender and racial inequality, violence and poor governance, and climate change. Each of these injustices is the result of systemic problems. We have the power to make those systems work more effectively and to be more just.

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This report analyzes what we know about these interconnected injustices and outlines next steps that governments, the private sector, and civil society can take to build a world in which no one has to experience hunger ever again.

*“Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it. Do not say to your neighbor, ‘Go, and come again, tomorrow I will give it’—when you have it with you.” —Proverbs 3:27-8*

Ultimately, the story of ending hunger is not about Jesus feeding those gathered around him. The story of ending hunger is not about manna falling from heaven to feed a weary people. The story of ending hunger is not even about wealthy people leaving a portion of their riches behind to be gathered by people excluded from prosperity.

Ending hunger will be a story of justice, of rebuilding broken systems, and using the tools we already have to ensure everyone has access to good food. These tools can help us end systemic hunger by the year 2030, but we must act now.

*“How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him.” —1 John 3:17-9*

As followers of Christ, we commit to working to build the moral and political will to make ending hunger a reality. There is no time to wait. Join us.

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