

HYMN: **AHB 557 LORD OF CREATION TO YOU BE ALL PRAISE**
 (Tune: Slane (2) 10.11.11.11)

BENEDICTION:

Leader: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship and guidance of the Holy Spirit, be with us all, now and forever. **Amen.**

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: In the name of Christ. **Amen**

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UNIT NEWS

NOVEMBER 20. At Campsie Salvation Army.
ACWC Service, 10.00am. Council Meeting follows.
All Welcome.

MARCH 1,1996. World Day of Prayer. Theme from Haiti-----
 "God calls us to respond".

MAY 16,17. ACW State Conference at Stanmore.
Everyone welcome ! Watch "Newsette" for details.

MAY 20. Installation of Mrs Peg Blake as State President.
 Presbyterian Church, Chalmers St, City.

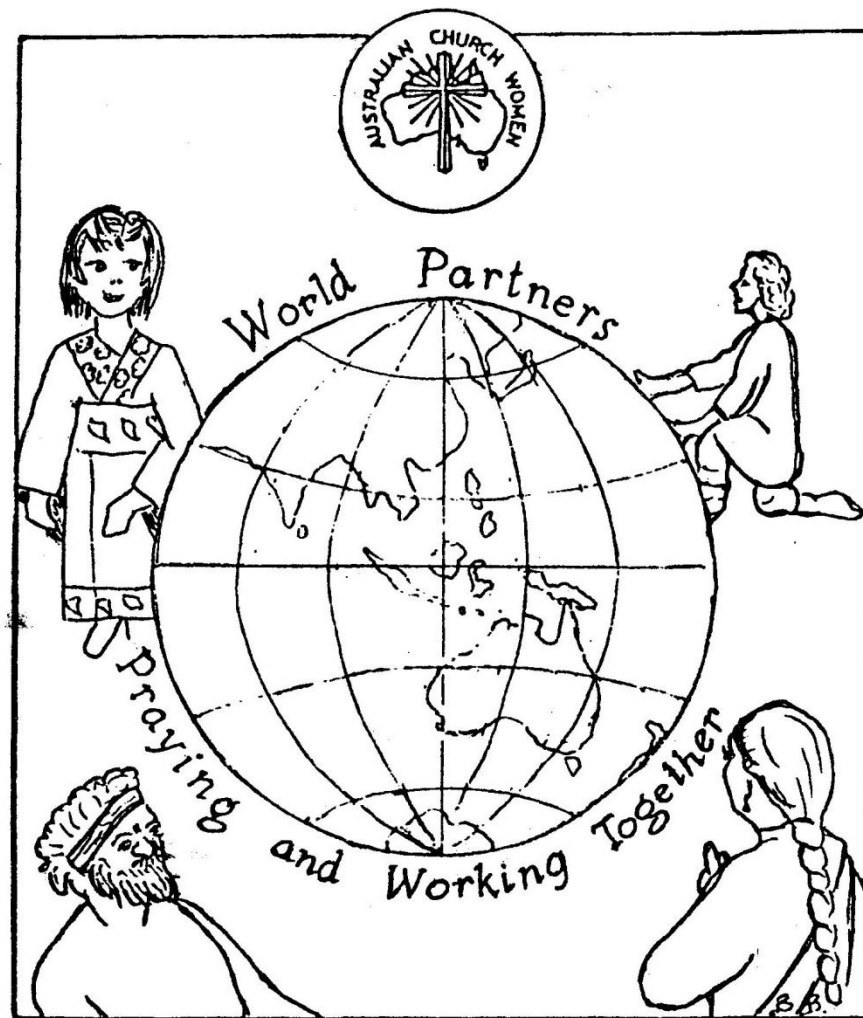
JULY 26. Fellowship Day. Theme---
 "Dwelling in the shadow of the Most High".

OCTOBER 25. World Community Day. Theme---
 "Our Changeless God".

PRESIDENT- Mrs Lucelle King. (046) 47 2226

SECRETARY- Major Joan Tong. 718 8640

TREASURER- Mrs Marie Majoor. 428 2384
 521 Mowbray Rd, LANE COVE.
 2066.



WORLD COMMUNITY DAY

OCTOBER 1995

INFORMATION

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN came into being in 1965 when existing Women's State Inter-Church Councils came together, prepared to share common tasks and to undertake united action. **AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN** seek -

- ...To unite Australian Women in their allegiance to their Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ;
- ...To help Christian women to take a more effective place in the total life and mission of the church.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN offerings are brought to World Community Day Services by groups or individuals to be dedicated. These are then sent to State Treasurers, who forward them to the National Treasurer.

THE GENERAL OFFERTORY from this year's Service is to be divided between the **ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE** with which Australian Church Women is affiliated. ACWC is made up of 16 member countries in Asia which includes Australia and New Zealand. Its **PURPOSE** states "Believing that the purpose of God for the Churches is life together in a common obedience to Him for the doing of His will in the world, the Asian Church Women's Conference is constituted so that women sharing a common faith in our Lord and Saviour may unite to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

and

SPECIAL PROJECT

LAOS EVANGELICAL CHURCH MEDICAL CENTRE - VIENTIANE.

Laos is a small country of 4 million people in South East Asia with a struggling economy. It has been comparatively free of armed conflict but does have a military Government. The Laos Evangelical Church has two worship centres in the capital, Vientiane. In August 1994 a Medical Centre and Vocational Training Centre were opened at one of the church complexes. 50% of the Offering from this Service will be given to the Laos Evangelical Church to assist with medical supplies, equipment and running costs at the Medical Centre.

This 1995 Service was written by a Sub-committee of the Western Australian unit. Cover design by Barbara Bourhill.

PLEASE NOTE: This Order of Service is copyright and may not be re-written or otherwise altered except for the substitution of hymns that are considered to be more suitable or available in the local situation.

WORLD PARTNERS - PRAYING AND WORKING TOGETHER

CALL TO WORSHIP

- Leader: We are called from the ends of the earth
All: **We are called from the centre of our lives**
Leader: Men and women, young and old
All: **Rich and poor, strong and weak**
Leader: We are called into God's love
All: **To receive the Grace of God in all its fullness.**

Candle to be processed in and lit.

- Leader: "As the sun brings the light of a new day after the blackness of night, so Jesus brings the light of his presence into a darkened world.
Within our world we search for signs
that God exists and cares for each one of us.
The candle is a flickering reminder.
In baptism we proclaim with the children of God throughout the world
that God always loves people and people are able to love God."
All: **The candle is a sign of the presence of God in the world, encompassing the earth and all people.** (from Iona Community Worship Book)

HYMN: **AHB 13 - LET ALL THE WORLD IN EVERY CORNER SING**
(Tune (ii) Luckington 10 4.66.66.10 4)

LITANY OF PRAISE & THANKSGIVING

- Leader: We thank you, Oh God, that you have brought us together, to glorify your holy name of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. You created all people in your image in a wonderful diversity of races and cultures throughout the world.
All: **For showing your presence in each of us, we praise you, O Lord.**
Leader: We thank you for the rich variety of individual people, for all gifts and talents as we worship and work together.
All: **For the uniqueness of each human being, we praise you, O Lord.**
Leader: We thank you for all who minister in your name through preaching, teaching, sharing, helping, understanding, encouraging and just being there for others.
All: **For all those who labour with love, we praise you, O Lord.**

Leader: We thank you for those who give us tasks that demand our best efforts and sensitive responses; for leading us to a deeper understanding of peace and justice, unity and hope.

All: For all that builds up your church, we praise you, O Lord.

Leader: We praise you for the Holy Spirit present among us, to help us to know Jesus Christ - the light of the World, so that we may make him known in all the earth.

All: For these and all your mercies, we bless and praise you, O Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION: (Together)

"Lord Jesus Christ, you are the way of peace. Come into the brokenness of our lives and our land with your healing love. Help us to be willing to bow before you in true repentance, and to bow to one another in real forgiveness. By the fire of your Holy Spirit, melt our hard hearts and consume the pride and prejudice which separate us. Fill us, O Lord, with your perfect love which casts out fear and bind us together in that unity which you share with the Father and the Holy Spirit." (from *Churches together in England*)

Leader: Eternal God, Lord of all creation in whom we live and move and have our being;

All: Our Father in heaven.

Leader: Everlasting Father, father of our Lord, Jesus Christ, who came that we might have life;

All: Hallowed be your name.

Leader: God of love who sent your Holy Spirit into our world;

All: Hallowed be your name.

Leader: Deliver all people from the bondage of this life; from fear, from pride, from greed, and from self-love. Give us courage to share suffering when it comes. Restore in us the joy of resurrection;

All: Your kingdom come.

Leader: By their knowledge of you may all people everywhere learn to love you and seek to live together in peace and love with one another;

All: Your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Leader: In the wilderness you gave the people bread. You feed the birds of the air, you clothe the lilies of the field. You know what things we need;

All: Give us this day our daily bread.

Leader: Forgive us our sins and help us to forgive others: for to forgive is to love and to love is to forgive;

All: Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Leader: Spare us from those trials with which you know we cannot cope. But do not spare us from those which will make us better people;

All: Lead us not into temptation.

Leader: You have already won the decisive battle against evil, but the powers of darkness will do their desperate work in our hearts;

All: Deliver us from evil.

Leader: Yours is the glory in the face of Jesus Christ, shining now in our faith, our hope and our love;

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING:

Reader 1: *ISAIAH Chap 43: v 8-12.*

Reader 2: The might, power and majesty of God is declared, but also the task of the people of God is set forth - to be witnesses to the Lord. A witness tells the story clearly, sets forth the facts; a witness is not primarily talking about self, but another.

NEW TESTAMENT READING:

Reader 1: *ACTS Chap 4: v 32-37.*

Reader 2: The Apostles proclaimed the mighty power of God revealed in Jesus - and the welfare needs of the people were met. Here we have an example of Christian community - each according to ability, to each according to need. Also - note Barnabas' attributes: one who encouraged others and set an example of practical stewardship too!

HYMN: DEEP IN THE HUMAN HEART (Tune Diademata 66.86 D)

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|----|-----------------------------------|----|------------------------------------|
| 1. | Deep in the human heart | 2. | This is our task today |
| | The fire of justice burns; | | To build a world of peace |
| | A vision of a world renewed | | A world of justice, freedom, truth |
| | through radical concern. | | Where kindness will increase; |
| | As Christians we are called | | A world from hunger freed, |
| | To set the captives free, | | A world where people share, |
| | To overthrow the evil powers | | Where every person is of worth |
| | And end hypocrisy. | | And no-one lives in fear. |
| 3. | Taking the step of faith | | |
| | We leave the past behind | | |
| | And move into the future's world | | |
| | With open heart and mind. | | |
| | By grace we work with Christ, | | |
| | As one community. | | |
| | To bring new hope and fuller life | | |
| | To all humanity. | | |

(from *Women Remembering the Future Songbook*)

GOSPEL READING:

Reader 1: *JOHN: Chap 1: v 1-5, 9-14, 16-18.*

Reader 2: John makes clear the purpose of his Gospel: to set forth who Jesus is - not with birth stories but with a prologue that declares he is God's true light, incarnate, bringing grace and truth.

Reader 1: *JOHN Chap 20: v 30, 31.*

Reader 2: Towards the end of his Gospel John adds the other part of his mission statement: he writes so that readers may believe and have life in Jesus Christ.

All: As World Partners Working and Praying Together we are called -
... to be witnesses;
... to proclaim the mighty power of Jesus and to meet the physical needs of the world;
... to tell who Jesus is, and work for the faith of the world.

ADDRESS:

HYMN: AHB 179 CHRIST IS THE WORLD'S TRUE LIGHT
(Tune: Rinkart or Nun Danket 67.67.66.66)

Presentation and Dedication of FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN offerings.
Coins collected with prayer for peace, reconciliation and justice during the past year are brought forward and received.)
(Music voluntary during offering.)

DEDICATION OF OFFERING:

THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN PRAYER (Together)

O loving creator, we present ourselves in your divine presence to thank you for all the bountiful gifts of life. We are especially grateful for the Fellowship of the Least Coin which binds us together in love and forgiveness around the globe. Free us from all doubts and prejudices, we pray. Inspire us to live in solidarity with humankind that we may know the joy of giving and receiving.

Dear God, accept the Least Coin 'Token of Love'. Make us mindful of the miracles of these coins. Let us honour your creation with love as shown through the life and resurrection of your son, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

Leader: Lord, we pray for members of Australian Church Women, Councils and Conferences of Churches, and ecumenical groups;

All: That they may continue to break down barriers and work together to develop a better understanding of each other.

Leader: We pray for the members countries of the Asian Church Women's Conference and other Asian countries;

All: That the women will be encouraged and supported by sharing together and their involvement with ACWC.

Leader: We pray for the many people worldwide who support the Fellowship of the Least Coin and those who benefit from project grants;

All: That the vision of this prayer fellowship for peace, reconciliation and justice will continue to be promoted and grow.

Leader: We pray for those who leave their own countries and travel to other parts of the world as missionaries, teachers, doctors, and others;

All: That they may be strengthened in their witness and work in difficult times as well as the good times.

Leader: We pray for areas of conflict in the world, particularly those countries where different religions are fighting with each other;

All: That they may come to accept their differences and learn to live in peace together.

God of all the earth, and protector of the defenceless, teach us that you do not belong to us, but we to you. In your grace take us up and make us part of your gracious action in the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WORLD PARTNERS IN MISSION (Cameo speaker/s, solo or choir)

At each Service some who have come from other lands, and/or have served in other parts of the world, could be invited to share briefly something of their experience in being World Partners - Praying and Working Together.

OFFERING for SPECIAL PROJECT and

ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

(Music voluntary during offering.)

CLOSING PRAYER

Leader: In this candle we have seen a flickering reminder of the light of the presence of Jesus in a darkened world. In our Worship our understanding has been illuminated that we are world partners, and in our praying together we have re-affirmed our commitment to sharing the light of the world. Now we present this candle as a symbol of Christ's light which enlightens the whole world, yet is unseen by many. As the candle is carried through the Church may we also commit ourselves to be world partners, praying and working together in the life of the world. Amen

Candle is processed out.