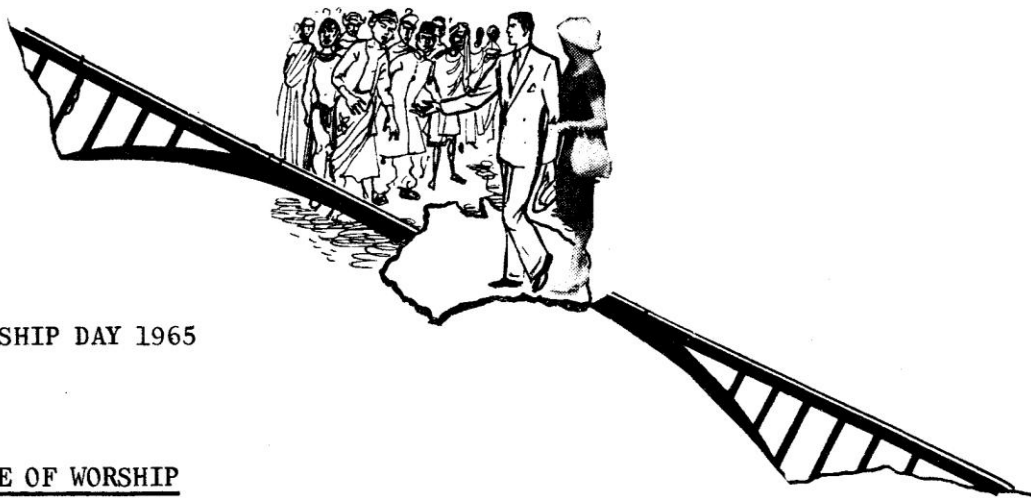


# *bridges to Asia*



FELLOWSHIP DAY 1965

## SERVICE OF WORSHIP

### Call to worship:

Leader: I was glad when they said unto me "Let us go into the House of the Lord".  
The Lord is in His holy temple. Let all the earth keep silence before Him.

All: We thank thee, our Father, for this fellowship of worship. Give us quiet in our minds and seriousness in our hearts; be near us in all our thinking with thy word and thy spirit.  
Bless our listening; give us a will to understand and take to heart.  
Bless our fellowship, so that we may help each other into the truth and on to thee, and so that we may learn to live in the unity of the spirit.  
Be in the midst of us, O Lord, living and saving. Into thy hands we commit ourselves and all those whom we represent. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Hymn: Come to our poor nature's night  
With Thy blessed inward light,  
Holy Ghost the Infinite,  
Comforter divine.

We are sinful - cleanse us, Lord;  
Sick and faint - Thy strength afford;  
Lost, until by Thee restored,  
Comforter divine.

Like the dew Thy peace distil;  
Guide, subdue our wayward will,  
Things of Christ unfolding still,  
Comforter divine.

With us, for us, intercede,  
And, with voiceless groanings, plead  
Our unutterable need,  
Comforter divine.

In us Abba, Father! cry,  
Earnest of the bliss on high,  
Seal of immortality,  
Comforter divine.

*Statement: re. Fellowship D.L.Y.*

Leader: "We are all united ... in the use of the Holy Scriptures. We are further united in common prayer, which may be expressed in the spoken word, through silence, or by employment of the sacred treasures of Christian literature, art, and music. In this worship we all stand before God in adoration of His majesty, bringing to Him our own needs and the needs of our fellows. We wait for His grace in the forgiveness of our sins and for the restoration of our spirits through renewed communion with Him, and we dedicate ourselves to His service and the service of all mankind". (Report of the Second World Conference on Faith & Order of the World Council of Churches.)

Prayer of Adoration:

Leader: Make still our hearts before thee, O God, that we may worship thee in spirit and in truth.

All: Glory be to thee, O Lord, for the light of the sun, making things live and grow, and giving us food and warmth.  
Glory be to thee for the light of the mind whereby we know thy truth.

Glory be to thee that thy light has shined in our hearts, to give the knowledge of thy glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Open our eyes, O God, to thy glory that we may worship thee with glad and thankful hearts.

To thee the God of truth, of light and love, we bring our worship. Help us to hate that which thou dost hate, and to love that which thou dost love, that we may be thy true children today and always. AMEN.

2.

Psalm 67 (to be read alternately, all standing)

- L. God be merciful unto us, and bless us:  
P. And shew us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us.  
L. That thy way may be known upon the earth;  
P. Thy saving health among all nations.  
L. Let the people praise thee, O God;  
P. Yea, let all the people praise thee.  
L. O Let the nations rejoice and be glad;  
P. For thou shalt judge the folk righteously, and govern the nations upon earth.  
L. Let the people praise thee, O God;  
P. Yea, let all the people praise thee.  
L. Then shall the earth bring forth her increase;  
P. And God, even our own God, shall give us his blessing.  
L. God shall bless us;  
P. And all the ends of the world shall fear him.

Hymn: Christ, from whom all blessings flow,  
Perfecting the saints below,  
Hear us, who Thy nature share,  
Who Thy mystic body are.

Join us, in one spirit join,  
Let us still receive of Thine;  
Still for more on Thee we call,  
Thou who fillest all in all.

Move, and actuate, and guide:  
Divers gifts to each divide;  
Placed according to Thy will,  
Let us all our work fulfil;

Sweetly may we all agree,  
Touched with loving sympathy:  
Kindly for each other care;  
Every member feel its share.

Love, like death, hath all destroyed,  
Rendered all distinctions void;  
Names, and sects, and parties fall;  
Thou, O Christ, art all in all.

All (standing) (The Korean Creed)

We believe in the one God, Maker and Ruler of all things,  
Father of all men, the source of all goodness and beauty,  
all truth and love.  
We believe in Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh, our 3.

teacher, example, and redeemer, the Saviour of the world.  
 We believe in the Holy Spirit, God present with us for guidance,  
 for comfort, and for strength.  
 We believe in the forgiveness of sins, in the life of love and  
 prayer, and in grace equal to every need.  
 We believe in the Word of God contained in the Old and New  
 Testaments as the sufficient rule both of faith and of  
 practice.  
 We believe in the Church as the fellowship for worship and  
 for service of all who are united to the living Lord.  
 We believe in the Kingdom of God as the divine rule in human  
 society, and in the brotherhood of man under the fatherhood of  
 God.  
 We believe in the final triumph of righteousness, and in the  
 life everlasting. AMEN.

#### Prayer of Confession:

Leader: O God our Father, who hast set forth the way of life for  
 us in thy beloved Son: we confess with shame our slowness to  
 learn of Him, our reluctance to follow him, Thou hast spoken  
 and called, and we have not given heed. Thy beauty has shone  
 forth, and we have been blind: Thou hast stretched forth thy  
 hands to us through our fellows and we have passed by. We  
 have taken great gifts with little thanks; we have been  
 unworthy of thy changeless love.

All: Have mercy upon us and forgive us, O Lord.

Leader: Forgive us, we beseech thee, the poverty of our worship,  
 the formality and selfishness of our prayers, our inconstancy  
 and unbelief, our neglect of fellowship and of the means of  
 grace, our hesitating witness for Christ, our false pretences  
 and our wilful ignorance of thy ways.

All: Have mercy upon us and forgive us, O Lord.

Leader: Forgive us wherein we have wasted our time or misused our  
 gifts. Forgive us wherein we have excused our wrong-doing  
 or evaded our responsibilities;  
 Forgive us that we have been unwilling to overcome evil with  
 good, that we have drawn back from the cross.

All: Have mercy upon us, and forgive us, O Lord.

Leader: Forgive us that so little of Thy love has reached others  
 through us, and that we have borne so lightly wrongs and  
 sufferings that were not our own.  
 4. Forgive us wherein we have cherished the things that divide  
 us from others, and wherein we have made it hard for them  
 to live with us; And wherein we have been thoughtless in our

judgements, hasty in our condemnation, grudging in our forgiveness.

All: Have mercy upon us and forgive us, O Lord.

Leader: If we have made no ventures in fellowship; if we have kept in our heart a grievance against another; if we have not sought reconciliation; if we have been eager for the punishment of wrong-doers, and slow to seek their redemption;

All: Have mercy upon us, O God, according to thy loving kindness; according to the multitude of thy tender mercies, blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sins. Create in us clean hearts O God, and renew right spirits within us.

Our Father . . .

Reading: St. John's Gospel: Chapter 13: 33 - 35  
15: 11 - 17

Hymn: (Tune Austria)

Lord, we thank thee for our brothers,  
Keeping faith with us and thee;  
Joining heart to heart with others  
Making strong our company.  
With the cross our only standard,  
Let us sing with one great voice,  
Glory, glory, thine the Kingdom;  
Churches in thy Church rejoice.

God be praised for congregations  
Coming side by side to thee;  
Many tongues of many nations  
Since the greater unity.  
Sweet the psalm and sweet the carol  
When our song is raised as one;  
Glory, glory, thine the power  
As in heaven thy will be done.

Hallowed be thy name forever;  
Heal our differences of old;  
Bless thy Church's new endeavour,  
For thy Kingdom make us bold.  
One our Christ and one our gospel,  
Make us one we now implore,  
Glory, glory, thine the glory,  
Through the ages evermore.

Address: Bridges to Asia. *Scripture Reading +  
Brief intro.*

Col. Cross conclude.

Prayer:

Leader: Lord when we pray and petition thee for thy grace, hear not our prayer as intended or made for our own selves; but always for others, with like desire or need; for all for whom we would or ought to pray; for our families and companions' sakes, for those whom we shall meet today, tomorrow; for all others of thy family, thy Church, thy mystical Body, full with needs.

All: O Saviour of the world, in need we all are one, needing Thee; let all be in our every prayer. AMEN.

Leader: Let us share in the fellowship of prayer with Christians of South East Asian countries.

Leader: (Prayer from China)

We praise Thee, our Father, That even in the hour of darkness, We can come to Thee with confidence. We know that thou art the ruler of nations And the maker of history; We know that nothing that men can do Can ever frustrate Thy holy and righteous will. Help us, Father, to learn the lessons That have come out of conflict; Grant that the day may not be too far off When the nations will become one, When war will be abolished, And when we shall live peacefully together As brethren in Thy holy family.

(Prayer from Japan)

O Thou, whose glory reaches to the heavens, our Peerless One, grant that, as Fuji's pain-wrought crown is reflected in the muddy paddy fields near its base, we may each in his own place and in his own pattern catch a fragment of thy likeness and all together reveal the perfection of thy beauty.

(Prayer from the Philippines)

When complacent and unstirred by the needs of others, make us restless until we have responded in sincerity. Having responded, help us to be faithful to our commitments. In all our endeavours, may we glorify thee. In the name of Jesus Christ, who taught us to be mindful of our neighbours, we pray.

(Prayer from Indonesia)

Make me to know thy ways, O Lord; teach me thy paths. Lead me in thy truth, and teach me, for thou art the God of my salvation; for thee I wait all the day long.

A Prayer for Understanding to be read by all:

Almighty God, in whom is calmness, peace and concord; heal thou

the divisions which separate thy children from one another, and enable them to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace. While there are diversities of knowledge and faith, and we cannot all be of the same mind, may we be made one in brotherly love, and in devotion to thy holy will. Deliver us from all blindness and prejudice, from all clamor and evil speaking, that, by the charity of our temper and thought and life, we may show forth the power and beauty of the religion we profess, to the glory of thy holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

— Offering: (for Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund) — <sup>Music</sup> PRAYER

— Hymn: Thou art the Way: To Thee alone (Tune).  
From sin and death we flee;  
And he who would the Father seek  
Must seek Him, Lord, by thee.  
  
Thou art the Truth: Thy word alone  
True wisdom can impart;  
Thou only canst inform the mind,  
And purify the heart.  
  
Thou art the Way, the Truth, the Life:  
Grant us that Way to know  
That Truth to keep, that Life to win,  
Whose joys eternal flow. AMEN.

Benediction:

Grant, O Lord, that what hath been said with our lips we may believe in our hearts, and that what we believe in our hearts we may practice in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. AMEN.

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★ STUDY MATERIAL ★

As preparation for the study or follow-up to it read some of the following (available from the A.C.C.)

A Factual Study of Asia (17/6)

Proclaiming Christ in Asia (3/-)

Report of the Situation Conferences convened by the  
E.A.C.C. (3/4)

Study: Acts 10: 9 - 35

Read: Col. 3: 10 - 11

Discuss (in small groups):

1. <sup>a</sup> What was Peter's attitude to non-Jews? <sup>de.</sup> Do you think our attitude to Asians might be similar in some respects?
2. <sup>a</sup> What might be the causes of Western attitudes to Asians? <sup>h</sup> What must we do to meet Asians on a basis of equality and without prejudice?
3. Do you think the achievement of independence by Asian nations could be called divine deliverance?
4. What kinds of division are mentioned by St. Paul in Col. 3: 11?
5. What kinds of reconciliation should the "younger churches" of S.E. Asia be attempting in the name of Christ?
6. What would you say are the chief problems of S.E. Asia today? How can Asian Christians help to solve these?
7. How can we most effectively assist the Churches of S.E. Asia in their tasks?



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