



Australian Church
Women



WORLD
COMMUNITY
DAY

October, 1970



Theme:

"It's a Small World"

WORLD COMMUNITY DAY, 1970

"IT'S A SMALL WORLD"

If possible in your local situation, arrange for a group of ladies from other countries in National dress, to sit close to the leader or in some place where they can readily be seen. Give each lady some part in the Service — perhaps to lead a section or responsive reading. We suggest that these ladies take up the offering.

Would it be possible for you to get some tape recorded messages from missionaries who have served or are serving on the mission field? These to take about five minutes, and if possible on our Theme. If you do this, you could have the ladies in National dress grouped around a world globe that has been set on a turn table, to start revolving at the same time as the tape commences. You may care to use this in place of an address. You may consider placing a large blue screen, or dark blue paper or cloth over a blackboard, with gold or silver stars of varying sizes here and there, and the globe as above. Our Theme may be placed across the top, or arched over the corner.

"IT'S A SMALL WORLD"

HYMN: Christ for the World — Tune: Moscow.

Christ for the world, we sing
The world to Christ we bring
With loving zeal;
The poor, and them that mourn,
The faint and overborne,
Sin-sick and sorrow-worn,
Whom Christ doth heal.

Christ for the world, we sing:
The world to Christ we bring
With fervent prayer;
The wayward and the lost,
By restless passions tossed,
Redeemed at countless cost
From dark despair.

Christ for the world, we sing:
The world to Christ we bring
With one accord;
With us the work to share,
With us reproach to dare,
With us the cross to bear
For Christ our Lord.

Christ for the world, we sing:
The world to Christ we bring
With joyful song;
The new-born souls, whose days,
Reclaimed from error's ways,
Inspired with hope and praise,
To Christ belong.

LEADER: In a world where we may lift the receiver of our 'phone at home, and speak to our loved ones or friends anywhere in the world in just a few moments; where we may board a 'plane and within hours be at the other side of the world; where astronauts fly to and walk upon the moon, yet we have not learned to live at peace with each other. Jesus said, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." St. Mat. 28:29.

LET US PRAY: Gracious Lord, we confess that we have not followed Christ's example of meekness, we have sought our own good before the good of others, and yet in the name of meekness have allowed wrong to go unchallenged. We have been more concerned for the world's will than Thine. Forgive us, O Lord, and grant that in the strength, love and humility of Christ, we may be His true disciples and faithful witnesses. AMEN. (Oo-Chung Lee, Korea).
Let us pray together the LORD'S PRAYER.

PSALM 8:

LEADER: O Lord our Lord, how excellent is Thy name in all the earth! who hast set Thy glory above the heavens.

RESPONSE: Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings hast Thou ordained strength because of Thine enemies, that Thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

LEADER: When I consider the heavens, the work of Thy fingers, the moon and stars which Thou hast ordained;

RESPONSE: What is man that Thou art mindful of him? and the son of man that Thou visitest him?

LEADER: For Thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour.

RESPONSE: Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of Thy hands; Thou hast put all things under his feet:

LEADER: All sheep and oxen, yea and the beasts of the field;

RESPONSE: The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the path of the seas.

LEADER: O Lord our Lord, how excellent is Thy name in all the earth.

HYMN: "Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life" — Tune: Fulda.

Where cross the crowded ways of life, Where sound the cries of race and clan, Above the noise of selfish strife, We hear Thy voice, O Son of Man.	The cup of water given for Thee Still holds the freshness of Thy grace; Yet long these multitudes to see The sweet compassion of Thy face.
In haunts of wretchedness and need, On shadowed thresholds dark with fears, From paths where hide the lures of greed, We catch the vision of Thy tears.	O Master, from the mountain side, Make haste to heal these hearts of pain; Among these restless throngs abide, O tread the city's streets again;
From tender childhood's helplessness, From woman's grief, man's burdened toil, From famished souls, from sorrow's stress, Thy heart has never known recoil.	Till sons of men shall learn Thy love, And follow where Thy feet have trod; Till glorious from Thy heaven above, Shall come the City of our God.

DURING THE SINGING OF THIS HYMN LADIES ARE INVITED TO BRING
THEIR OFFERING FOR THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN.

PRAYER: Eternal Father, we bring our gifts to Thee, and ask that Thou wilt bless and sanctify them. Give guidance that through their use Thy light may penetrate into darkened minds and Thy strength and comfort may reach needy souls around the world. AMEN.

"IT'S A SMALL WORLD"

The beautiful answer that Astronaut Borman gave when asked what he felt as he saw the earth while orbiting the moon: "I realised for the first time what a small planet earth is, compared with the vast universe. That it is important for everyone on that little earth to live together as brothers, with love, understanding and co-operation."

Astronomers claim there are forty sextillion (22 zeros) stars which are suns to other planets. In Psalm 147:4 we read "He telleth the number of stars; He calleth them all by their names." The largest dictionaries contain 500,000 words. There would need to be eighty quadrillion books of that size to list all the names of the sun-stars alone! **AND EARTH IS ONE LITTLE PLANET.**

SELECTED VERSES FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT:

LEADER: For God so loved the *world*, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

RESPONSE: Glory to God in the highest, and on *earth* peace, goodwill towards man.

LEADER: That they all may be one; as Thou Father art in me, and I in Thee, that they also may be one in us: that the *world* may believe that Thou hast sent me.

RESPONSE: O Righteous Father, the *world* hath not known Thee, but I have known Thee, and these have known that Thou hast sent me.

LEADER: God was in Christ, reconciling the *world* unto himself, and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

RESPONSE: If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. These prayers are from Christians won for Christ through the work and prayers of our missionaries.

INDIAN: "May our Faith be as joyous as the silver anklets that jingle softly, may our Hope be as bright and firm as our shining tresses decked with flowers, and may our Love be expressed in manifold activities like our gay saris of all shades and patterns."

AFRICAN: "Great Teacher God, I want to love, to pray, and do these things like You — I want to do them all the time."

NEW GUINEAN CHRISTIAN WOMAN: "As I dig my garden and plant the food, help it to grow with rain and sunshine. My back is aching but as the sun goes down, I can get rest. When it's dark in my little hut, help me to hear if my child moves too close to the fire. As I climb the hill to the village with water from the river, my legs are so tired, but You can give me strength. My children are learning new ways at the mission. They seem to know you very well — I hear them pray. I want to know You very well too. Help *me* to pray. My husband is very sick. He is very old man. He is very cross. Help me to be a good wife."

Small Teligu Boy brought to the church his wee gift of rice. On the way he had picked a red water lily. Standing it in the centre of his tiny heap of rice, he stood back, looking with shining eyes and said "Isn't it nice Jesus".

SOLO: "HE'S GOT THE WHOLE WORLD IN HIS HAND."

ADDRESS: "IT'S A SMALL WORLD" or if preferred — discussion based on questions.

OFFERING While organist plays softly:

(Offering for Inter-Church Aid project to provide Life Line Centres in Seoul, Korea.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

We give Thee but Thine own
What e'er that gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone
A trust, O Lord from Thee.

HYMN: "Love Divine All Loves Excelling" — Tune: Blaenwern or Bithynia.

Love divine, all loves excelling,	Come, Almighty to deliver,
Joy of heaven to earth come down;	Let us all Thy grace receive;
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,	Suddenly return, and never,
All Thy faithful mercies crown:	Never more Thy temples leave;
Jesu, Thou art all compassion,	Thee we would be always blessing,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;	Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Visit us with Thy salvation,	Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing,
Enter every trembling heart.	Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish then Thy new creation,
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation,
Perfectly restored in Thee;
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

PRAYER IN UNISON:

"O Lord, help us to carry Thy love into the world,
Where there is hate, may we bring love.
Where there is offence, may we bring pardon,
Where there is error, may we bring truth;
Where there is doubt, may we bring faith;
Where there is despair, may we bring hope;
Where there is darkness, may we bring light;
Where there is sadness, may we bring joy.
O Lord, Thou hast given Thyself for us:

Help us, as we go out into the world, not to seek our own comfort, but to console others, for it is in giving that we receive gifts, it is in forgetting that we find Thee; it is in pardoning others that we are forgiven; it is in dying that we are raised to life Eternal." (From St. Francis).

BENEDICTION: Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory. To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. AMEN.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. How can we as Christian women work effectively to bring the Churches closer to each other in our local situation?
2. What should be done at the Australian level to promote co-operation between the Churches?
3. In this ever shrinking world how can we find ways to draw the Churches closer together? In what practical ways can we assist in the development of under-privileged countries?

The service has been prepared by The Salvation Army and produced by Australian Church Women, C/- Victorian Council of Churches, 100 Flinders Street, Melbourne. All offerings for the inter-Church Aid project should be forwarded to the State Treasurer of the Women's Inter-Church Council of your own State.

The Australian Church Women was established by the Australian Council of Churches, to co-ordinate the work of women in the member churches throughout Australia. It operates through the State Units and prepares two services annually, Fellowship Day on the fourth Wednesday of July, and World Community Day on the fourth Friday of October. The Australian Church Women encourages support of the Women's World Day of Prayer, and promotes the Fellowship of the Least Coin. Through the Committee on Co-operation of Men and Women in Church, Family and Society, it is linked with the Department of this name in the World Council of Churches in Geneva.