

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH
WOMEN



FELLOWSHIP DAY

JULY 1975

THEME :

"Adventuring with the Spirit"

"ADVENTURING WITH THE SPIRIT"

'Who me, Lord?'

GOD'S WORLD : OUR WORLD

Readings from the daily newspapers - our world as it is!

Voice from the congregation: *Let's not be so dismal. I don't come to church to think about things like that. I want to get away from them and think about God.*

Leader: But these headlines are our world, God's world. He is concerned in all this!

Voice: *Ye...s! But it's all so complicated. Is this the way the world is meant to be?*

HYMN

Voice: *Well, whose fault is it the world's in a mess?*

Leader: We cannot avoid involvement in the world. God made us as the culmination of his creation, to have responsibility as stewards for all that He has made.

SCRIPTURE READING - Psalm 8

PRAYER OF CONFESSION - seeking forgiveness
confessing our irresponsibility and apathy
towards the world
confessing our apathy towards each other.

HYMN

CHRIST THE LIBERATOR

Voice: Well, so we've agreed God made the world and put us in charge of it. So, where do we go from here? What can we do about it?

SCRIPTURE READING - Ephesians 1:3-14

AFFIRMATION OF HOPE *(all standing)*

We believe in

*Jesus Christ, God's Son, His greatest gift to us;
Who teaches us and heals our minds and bodies;
Who sets us free to be ourselves.
Sharing his victory in life and death we are able to live
and die without fear.*

We believe in

*the Holy Spirit, God's gift of His presence with us now.
In his Spirit, He calls us into the church to gather for
worship, study and friendship, knowing Him and one another.
In His Spirit, He sends us out as the scattered church to
live the life of love and forgiveness, teaching others that
He is God.*

(Created by the Confirmation Class, First United Methodist Church,
Pittsburg, Pennsylvania).

SOLO

Voice: *Can I really be of any use in changing the world into the
kind of place God planned it to be. I'm so ordinary, no special
qualifications, and I'm scared by the vastness of it all!*

Leader: But Jesus has shown us the way - he says to every man,
woman and child.... "Follow Me!" Without your contribution God's
world is incomplete.

MEDITATION - "COME AND MEET HIM WHOM MY SOUL LOVETH"

Come, every one of you, and let us worship and adore him.
Let us sing his praises throughout the whole wide earth, for he
is worthy to be praised.

Who is this one, whom your soul loveth and praiseth?

He is lovelier than the loveliest. Fairer than the fairest.
Mightier than the mightiest. Greater than the greatest.
He is altogether wonderful.

Is he more lovely than the man I adore?
Is he fairer than the woman I adore?
Is he mightier than all the wealth I possess?
Is he greater than all the fame I have?
Is he more wonderful than all my knowledge and learning?

Oh, yes, come with me and meet him whom my soul loveth.
There is nothing and no one in heaven or earth more wonderful than
he.

Can he whom your soul loveth refresh us also and rest our tired souls?
Can he heal us of our sickness and rescue us from our sins?
Can he give us that joy and peace which nothing on earth can take away?
The world promised to give us all this, and we followed, but what the
world gave us was only for a short time, and then we were left more
wretched than ever.

Come with me, for I have been through all this experience and more,
and now I have found him who is my delight.

Come, we will go with you and meet him.

But they saw a hand thrust out which beckoned to them, a hand which
looked beautiful to the natural eye. It appeared suddenly with all
the splendour and glory of the world in its palm, and they turned
around and followed it. She went back to her Lord alone.

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN MY CHILD? the Lord said, YOU LOOK TIRED AND SAD.

I went to bring others to meet you whom my soul loves. They decided
to come, but the world beckoned to them and they turned round and
followed it.

YOU SHOULD NOT HAVE GONE ALONE MY CHILD. YOU SHOULD HAVE TAKEN ME.
NOW COME, AND WE SHALL BOTH GO OUT TOGETHER IN SEARCH OF THE LOST.

(From "The Stranger" by Daya Arul Nithi)

HYMN

PRAYER OF PETITION - asking for the gifts and fruits of the
spirit to be in our lives

ADVENTURING WITH THE SPIRIT

SCRIPTURE READING - Ephesians 1:15-19

THE WORD OF GOD FOR THIS DAY

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND OFFERING

- for the work of the Spirit in our lives
- for the work of the Spirit in the Winifred
Kiek Scholarship holder's life

HYMN

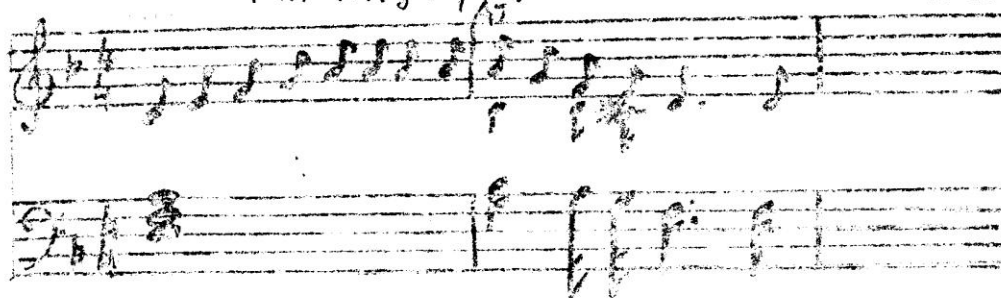
BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

(This service was prepared by the Congregational Women's
Fellowship of South Australia for Australian Church Women).

HYMN I

I'm mighty glad YOU know! J.B.



POSTLUDE

QUIETLY

CHORUS HIS PEACE HE GIVES TO US, HIS
 PEACE HE LEAVES WITH US
 NOT FOR US ALONE BUT THAT
 WE MIGHT GIVE IT A-GAIN TO ALL MEN

VERSE THE MAN WHO LOOKS FOR GOD IN THE
 DEPTHS OF HIS HEART WILL
 FIND A HIDDEN QUI-ET THAT
 NOTHING CAN DIS-TURB OR TAKE A-WAY.

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CHORUS

His peace He gives to us, His peace He leaves with us;
 Not for us alone, but that we might give it again to all men

The man who looks for God in the depths of his heart,
 Will find a hidden quiet, that nothing can disturb,
 Or take away.

The man who sees his life as an open door
 Through which all men might come to love
 And give again, will know true peace.

The man whose joy it is to discover the world
 For all eternity, to rejoice and be free,
 Will have true peace.

from "Sing a New Song" 49

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LEADERS NOTES
"FELLOWSHIP DAY - 1975"

1. Form a planning group to develop this service to suit your congregation. Choose people for their reading ability etc. rather than because they're office bearers.
2. Form a small group, have a choir practice or use the tape recording of unfamiliar songs available to ensure the congregation has an idea of the songs to be used during the service.
3. Bible readings - recommend you use "Good News for Modern Man" translation to gain full benefit in understanding the readings selected. Psalm 8 - recommend you use "Psalms for Modern Man" in Today's English Version or "God is Here, Let's Celebrate" by Leslie Brandt, paraphrases on psalms.
4. Readings from the Newspaper - ask members of planning group to cut out headlines from the Newspapers which show the confusion and turmoil of the world, the abuse of creation and of man.
5. Voice from the congregation - this person could sit near the front with a microphone if necessary or wherever you find appropriate. She is as it were 'speaking the thoughts of the congregation' as the service progresses
6. Prayers - follow the headings suggested and write your own or select from suitable books. William Barclay has an excellent prayer on the Fruits of the Spirit in "Prayers for Today".
7. Meditation - have quiet organ music or taped music as background to the reading. Use one person to read or have three people verbally role play the reading. Let the music continue for a minute or so at the end for "reflection" time by the congregation.
8. Music - If you want to use modern hymns we suggest the following books:- Travelling to Freedom: Sing a New Song: Songs of Faith: Faith, Folk & Festivity.
The following hymns and songs are recommended - if unsuitable to your congregation choose those you feel appropriate:

Hymn No.1

1. Once my world was ten miles round;
My neighbours lived next-door;
And I could live beyond the sound
And sight and signs of war.

Refrain:

But things the way they were have gone;
God! What on earth is going on?
I'm mighty glad you know! (twice)

2. China was the place of 'Ming'
And 'Tang' and 'Fu-manchu';
A distant place, a hazy thing ...
Not close to me or you

Refrain:

3. They say God works in history,
In world events ... and thus
To me it's all a mystery;
I thought he favoured US!

Refrain:

Seems things the way they were have
gone; etc.

4. The Bible claims the world is his;
He loves them all in spite
Of whether they're aware of this...
Perhaps the Good book's right!

Refrain:

Some things etc.

5. If it's true the world is God's
And he works in it all,
There is no room for righteous bods
Nor folks whose world is small.

Refrain:

If things the way they were have gone,
We'll try to grasp what's going on,
God! Mighty glad you know! (twice)

(Written by Rev. J. Bodycomb - song music too!) (This song is available on tape for groups to hire)

Or ALTERNATIVE: All people that on earth do dwell Tune - Old Hundredth IM

Hymn 2 I sing the almighty power of God - C.M. tune St.Silas or St.Saviour

Hymn 3 Father I know that all my life is portioned out for me -
8.6.8.6.8.6. Tune Montrose or Arabia or Sheltered Dale.

Hymn 4 We are one in the Spirit, We are one in the Lord,
We are one in the Spirit, We are one in the Lord,
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.

Refrain: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, We will walk hand in hand. (repeat)
And together we'll spread the news That God is in our land.

Refrain:

We will work with each other, We will work side by side, (repeat)
And we'll guard each man's dignity and save each man's pride.

Refrain:

All praise to the Father,
From whom all things come.
And all praise to Christ Jesus,
His only Son.
And all praise to the Spirit,
Who makes us one.

Refrain:

(This song is available on tape for groups to hire)

ALTERNATIVE SUGGESTION FOR No.4 Come, Holy Spirit, Come - tune Franconia by Joseph König.

The following is another hymn which can be used if and where it is felt to be appropriate. The music is that of Jacob's ladder. To be sung solemnly at first but with increasing tempo and joyfulness.

1. O Lord Jesus, cast our sin out.
Lord, have mercy: Christ, have mercy.
Take away our life of sin now.
Jesus, hear our prayer.
2. Fill our empty lives with your love.
Give our lives some great new purpose.
Send your Spirit to live in us.
Jesus, hear our prayer.
3. You, alone, Lord, can transform us.
You, alone, can we depend on.
You, alone, can give us power.
Jesus, hear our prayer.
4. Glory to God, peace to all men.
Let us praise him, let us bless him.
Let us give our lives to serve him,
Jesus, hear our prayer.

Solo or Choir section suggestions:

"Love is Some Again" - "Faith, Folk and Clarity" by Gilliard
"Christ is my Rock" - "Medical Mission Sisters"

Postlude - "His Peace He Gives to Us" - (this song is available on the same tape for hire)

Word of God for Us Today

It can be a sermon, dialogue, role play, testimony - what ever you feel expresses how we can open ourselves to adventuring with the Spirit. To be willing to put our pride at risk, to act as responsible stewards of God's Good World. How to allow the Holy Spirit to work in our personal relationships to bring ourselves and others to a deeper and more personal relationship with God.

WINIFRED KEIK SCHOLARSHIP - the Leader may mention at the start of the service or before the offering that the money collected during the service will be used to help the Winifred Keik Scholarship holders during their training in Australia.