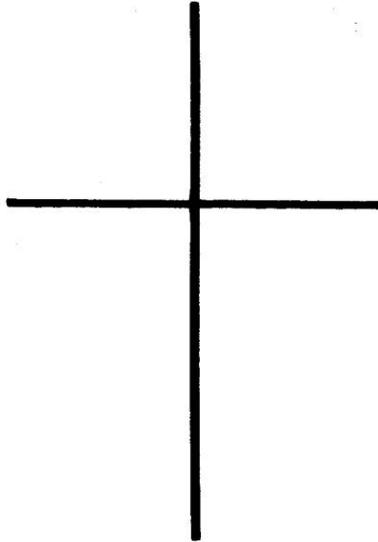


**AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN**



**'BUILDING BRIDGES'**

COMMUNITY DAY SERVICE  
OCTOBER 1977

While the Congregation gathers and prepare themselves for Worship, it is suggested that the music of "Bridge over Troubled Water" may be played.

OPENING HYMN: Christ is the King, O Friends Rejoice

1. Christ is the King ! O friends rejoice;  
Brothers and sisters, with one voice  
Make all men know he is your choice.  
Alleluia.
2. O magnify the Lord, and raise  
Anthems of joy and holy praise  
For Christ's brave saints of ancient days.  
Alleluia.
3. They with a faith forever new  
Followed the King, and round him drew  
Thousands of faithful men and true.  
Alleluia.
4. O Christian women, Christian men,  
All the world over, seek again  
The Way disciples followed then.  
Alleluia.
5. Christ through all ages is the same:  
Place the same hope in his great name.  
With the same faith his word proclaim.  
Alleluia.
6. Let Love's unconquerable might  
Your scattered companies unite  
In service to the Lord of light.  
Alleluia.
7. So shall God's will on earth be done,  
New lamps be lit, new tasks begun,  
And the whole Church at last be one.  
Alleluia.

LEADER: Let us declare in whose Name we meet.

ALL: In the Name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. AMEN.

READER: "God was in Christ, reconciling the world  
to himself." (2 Cor. 5 : 19)

THE WORLD OF GOD AND THE WORLD OF MANKIND  
MEET IN JESUS - HE IS THE BRIDGE BETWEEN  
GOD AND MANKIND, AND BETWEEN ONE PEOPLE AND  
ANOTHER.

THE UPRIGHT OF THE CROSS SHOWS US THAT BRIDGE BETWEEN GOD AND OURSELVES

THE OUTSTRETCHED ARMS OF THE CROSS SHOW US THAT BRIDGE WHEREBY WE MAY  
LINK ONE PERSON TO ANOTHER

It is suggested that a Cross be held up for all to see and the  
upright and cross pieces be pointed to as the Reader delivers this  
message

OR

Creative movement - actors/dancers stretch upward and outward -  
then meet to form a Cross.

READER: AS WE LOOK TO THE BRIDGES WHICH CHRIST GAVE US BY  
HIS DYING: LET US LOOK FORWARD TO SOME OF THE  
BRIDGES WHICH WE CAN BUILD BY LIVING IN HIM.

THE BRIDGE OF FAITH:

HYMN: Living Lord

1. Lord Jesus Christ,  
You have come to us,  
You are one of,  
Mary's Son.  
Cleansing our souls from all their sin,  
Pouring your love and goodness in;  
Jesus, our love for you we sing.  
Living Lord.

2. Lord Jesus Christ,  
Now and every day  
Teach us how to pray,  
Son of God.  
You have commanded us to do  
This in remembrance, Lord, of you:  
Into our lives your power breaks through,  
Living Lord.
3. Lord Jesus Christ,  
You have come to us,  
Born as one of us,  
Mary's Son.  
Led out to die on Calvary,  
Risen from death to set us free,  
Living Lord Jesus, help us see  
You are Lord.
4. Lord Jesus Christ,  
I would come to you,  
Live my life for you,  
Son of God.  
All your commands I know are true.  
Your many gifts will make me new.  
Into my life your power breaks through,  
Living Lord.

LESSON: Hebrews 11 : 1 - 3

PRAYER:  
(Leader or all) Lord, increase our faith that feeling towards  
you as children, we may trust where we cannot see,  
and hope where all seems doubtful, ever looking  
to you as our Father, who orders all things well.  
May we joyfully do the work you have given us,  
according to the word of your Son, Jesus Christ  
AMEN.

(May be sung or a solo)

Oh Holy Jesus, Most merciful Redeemer,  
Friend and Brother,  
May we know you more clearly, Love you more dearly  
and follow you more nearly,  
Day by day.

A short period of silence is kept to reflect upon the Bridge of Faith.

THE BRIDGE OF RECONCILIATION:

HYMN:                    When I needed a neighbour were you there ?

1. When I needed a neighbour were you there,  
Were you there ?  
When I needed a neighbour were you there ?  
And the creed and the colour and the name  
won't matter,  
Were you there ?
2. I was hungry and thirsty, were you there.....
3. I was cold, I was naked, were you there.....
4. When I needed a shelter, were you there.....
5. When I needed a healer, were you there.....
6. Wherever you travel, I'll be there.....

LESSON:                    2 Corinthians 5 : 18 - 21

PRAYER:                    O Lord, make us instruments of your peace,  
(Leader or all) Where there is hatred may we bring love;  
Where there is injury, forgiveness:  
Where there is discord, harmony:  
Where there is despair, hope:  
Where there is sadness, joy.  
May we ourselves seek to understand  
Rather than to be understood.  
To console rather than to be consoled,  
To love rather than to be loved.  
For it is in giving that we receive,  
It is in forgiving that we are forgiven,  
It is through dying that we are born  
To eternal life  
In Jesus Christ our Lord                    AMEN.

A short period of silence is kept to reflect on The Bridge of Reconciliation.

THE BRIDGE OF UNITY:

HYMN:            They'll Know We are Christians by our Love

1.        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.  
          And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,  
          Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.
2.        We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,  
          We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand.  
          And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.  
          And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,  
          Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.
3.        We will work with each other, we will work side by side,  
          We will work with each other, we will work side by side.  
          And we'll guard each man's dignity and save each man's pride.  
          And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.  
          Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.
4.        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, whom makes us one.  
          And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,  
          Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

LESSON:        Ephesians 4 : 1 - 7

PRAYER:

Leader:        O God, the Father of everybody:  
                  You ask all of us to bring love  
                  where the poor are humiliated,  
                  joy where the Church is downcast  
                  and unity where people are divided -  
                  the father with his son,  
                  the mother with her daughter,  
                  the husband with his wife,  
                  the believer with whoever cannot believe,

the Christian with his unwanted fellow Christian.  
You open this way for us, so that  
the wounded body of Jesus, your Church,  
may be leaven of communion  
for the people of the earth,  
and in the whole human family.            AMEN.

LEADER:            Let us pray, as the whole Christian family has  
been taught by our Lord:

ALL:                Our Father, Who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be Thy Name.  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done  
In earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive them that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil,  
For Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory,  
For ever and ever            AMEN.

READER:            We are one in Faith, by Reconciliation  
in Unity, by the Bridges we have built  
through life in Our Lord.

Let us therefore, greet one another in  
gladness and peace.

THE GREETING:    Here all stand to greet those near them,  
especially any they do not know well,  
saying to each other:

THE PEACE OF THE LORD BE ALWAYS WITH YOU  
and those who are greeted may reply  
AND ALSO WITH YOU

When it appears that as many as can do so have greeted one  
another with the Greeting of Peace, the Worship Leader and Reader  
lead everyone in this common Affirmation of Faith.

We believe in God, the Eternal Spirit,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ and our Father,  
and to His deeds we testify:  
He calls the world into being, creates man in His own image,  
and sets before him the ways of life and death.  
He seeks in holy love to save all people  
from aimlessness and sin,  
He judges men and nations by His righteous will declared  
through prophets and apostles.  
In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and  
risen Lord,  
He has come to us, and shared our common lot,  
conquering sin and death, and reconciling the world to Himself.  
He bestows upon us His Holy Spirit,  
creating and renewing the Church of Jesus Christ,  
binding in covenant faithful people of all ages,  
tongues and races.  
He calls us into His Church  
to accept the cost and joy of discipleship,  
to be His servants in the service of men  
to proclaim the Gospel to all the world  
and resist the powers of evil,  
to share in Christ's baptism and eat at His table,  
to join Him in His passion and victory.  
He promises to all who trust Him  
forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace,  
courage in the struggle for justice and peace,  
His presence in trial and rejoicing,  
and eternal life in His Kingdom which has no end.  
Blessing and honour, glory and power be unto Him.  
AMEN.

All now sit.

Symbolic of this Faith in Action, those who have offerings from  
the Fellowship of the Least Coin come forward. In offering  
their gifts they say :

"ACCEPT, LORD, THESE GIFTS FOR YOUR WORK  
AMONG WOMEN IN THE WORLD."

ADDRESS: Theme: BUILDING BRIDGES -  
between God and ourselves, and  
ourselves and others.

INTERCESSION PRAYERS:

LEADER: Lord of the earth, we praise you for the  
Good News of Jesus in our world.

ALL: Glory to God.

LEADER: Lord of suffering, we praise you for the power  
of the Cross, drawing all the peoples to know  
the way, the truth and the life.

ALL: Glory to Christ.

LEADER: Lord of wisdom, we praise you for the  
Church in the power of the Resurrection.

ALL: Glory to the Spirit.

LEADER: Lord Jesus, Who by your earthly life gave  
us a perfect example,

ALL: Help us to love and follow you.

LEADER: Lord Jesus, Who by your earthly ministry, life  
and teaching, revealed to us the Father,

ALL: Fill us with your Spirit.

LEADER: Lord Jesus, Who by your Cross showed us the  
Bridge between ourselves and others.

ALL: Help us to build the Bridges of  
Reconciliation and Unity.

LEADER: Lord Jesus, in calling us to deny ourselves  
and take up our Cross and follow you.

ALL: Help us to dedicate ourselves to this task.

Father we offer ourselves to you  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory.

AMEN.

All stand for the Offering Hymn.

Offerings to Church's Auxiliary for Social Action (CASA)  
Rehabilitation of families of leprosy patients  
at Lucknow, India. (see back page)

HYMN:            Lord of All Power, I give You my Will

1. Lord of all power, I give you my will  
In joyful obedience your tasks to fulfil.  
Your bondage is freedom, your service is song,  
And, held in your keeping, my weakness is strong.
2. Lord of all wisdom, I give you my mind,  
Rich truth that surpasses man's knowledge to find.  
What eye has not seen and what ear has not heard  
Is taught by your Spirit and shines from your word.
3. Lord of all bounty, I give you my heart;  
I praise and adore you for all you impart:  
Your love to inspire me, your counsel to guide,  
Your presence to cheer me, whatever betide.
4. Lord of all being, I give you my all;  
If e'er I disown you I stumble and fall;  
But sworn in glad service your word to obey,  
I walk in your freedom to the end of the way.

At the conclusion of the Offering Collection:

LEADER:        Let us offer these gifts together -

ALL:            ACCEPT LORD GOD OUR GIFTS FOR WORK AMONG THE  
FAMILIES OF LEPERS OF LUCKNOW.    STRENGTHEN  
THEM IN THEIR SUFFERING.    MAY THEY RECEIVE  
COMFORT BY THE GIFTS WE OFFER, AND A KNOWLEDGE  
OF YOUR LOVE FOR THEM.            AMEN.

LEADER:        Go forth into the world in peace; be of good  
courage; hold fast to that which is good; render  
to no man evil for evil; strengthen the faint  
hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted;  
honour all men; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing  
in the power of the Holy Spirit.  
And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son,  
and Holy Spirit be with us all.

AMEN.

A Prayer for personal use after the Service.

O God our Father, we pray you to  
bless us, and all Australian Church Women.  
Help us to bear one another's burdens, to  
live not for ourselves but for others, as  
members of one family in Jesus Christ.  
Cleanse us from our sins through His  
precious blood; make us pure and holy  
by the in-dwelling of your Spirit; and  
bring us all to the joy of your  
Heavenly Kingdom; through Jesus Christ  
our Lord,

AMEN.

(adapted from the G.F.S. Prayer)

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CHURCH'S AUXILIARY FOR SOCIAL ACTION -

Rehabilitation of Families of Leprosy Patients  
at Lucknow

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A project to assist 500 families of leprosy patients to become an economically self sufficient community over a period of five years. CASA is seeking assistance for financing 100 family housing units now, and an additional 400 units later. Project activities include training in agriculture and artisan skills, cottage industries and essential community services on a 75 acre plot near Lucknow.

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This Service was prepared by the GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY in PERTH W.A., under the guidance of their Chairwoman, Mrs. Joy Holland and their Chaplain, The Reverend T.P. Curtis.