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Australian Church Women
FELLOWSHIP DAY
2004



My peace I give to you
John 14: 27

Australian Church Women

Australian Church Women was established in 1965 when Women's Inter-Church Councils from all States and Territories came together to form Australian Church Women, fostering ecumenism and undertaking action on behalf of the churches.

Australian Church Women forms a network of committed Christian women, dedicated to encourage fellowship and service across denominational, national and international boundaries.

Winifred Kiek Scholarship

The offerings presented at Fellowship Day Services throughout Australia go to this scholarship, which Winifred Kiek, the first woman minister ordained in Australia, was influential in founding. The scholarship is offered to Christian women of multicultural Australia, Pacific Island nations and member countries of the Asian Church Women's Conference.

Today's Order of Service was prepared by the New South Wales Unit Inc. of Australian Church Women.

Please note: This order of service is copyright and may not be rewritten or otherwise altered, except for additional prayers where relevant for the current situation, and the substitution of hymns that are considered to be more suitable and available locally.

A musical item or solo may be included where desired in the service.

WELCOME AND GREETINGS

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 145: 1 - 10

OPENING HYMN: Praise my soul, the King of Heaven
(AHB 68)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we thank you for your goodness and loving kindness; for your gifts so freely bestowed on us; for your creation, and our country, government, family and friends.
Thank you for the gifts of work and leisure.
But above all, we thank you for your spiritual mercies in Christ Jesus our Lord,
for the means of grace,
and for the hope of glory.

All: May we live by faith, walk in hope, know your peace, and be renewed in love,
until the whole world reflects your glory
and you are all in all.
Amen.

HYMN: For the beauty of the earth (AHB 77)

or

Let us with a gladsome mind (AHB 11)

BIBLE READING: Philippians 4: 4 - 9

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Heavenly Father, we thank you that you are gracious, loving and forgiving.
We come into your presence, asking your forgiveness for sinning against you in thought and word and deed. We are aware that we have not always been loving towards others in our thought life, our words have not always been words that you would speak, and our deeds have not always been in accordance with your will.

All: Have mercy on us, O Lord;
and as we face the future knowing your peace,
may we live life to your glory.
Amen.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Leader: Almighty and everlasting God, we know from the Scriptures that it is your desire for your children to live together in peace.
We thank you that we can come into your presence, and pray for peace.

We pray that wherever we go and whatever we do, your peace will flow through us.
For those who do not know you, we pray that they

will understand that the only way of true peace is found in knowing you.
For those who live in war torn countries we pray for peace of mind and heart.

We also pray that those who are suffering either physical pain or mental anguish, and those who are grieving, will know the comfort and peace that come from you alone.

We commit to you the leaders of our country, that they may seek your wisdom and guidance in governing us in peace.

All: Have mercy on us, O Lord,
and grant us your peace.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Leader: Loving Father, we thank you for the many blessings you have freely showered on us.
We gladly bring our offerings to you for you to use.

Thank you for the work of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship, and that we are privileged to be involved. We pray for your blessing and keeping for those who have received support from the scholarship. May they always be aware of your presence with them.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your Name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done
 on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power and the glory
 are yours now and for ever.
 Amen.

BIBLE READING: John 14: 15 - 27

HYMN: How firm a foundation (AHB 491)

GUEST SPEAKER

HYMN: Crown him with many crowns (AHB 163)

or

In heavenly love abiding (AHB 504)

PRAYER

BENEDICTION

Leader: May God himself, the God of peace,
 sanctify you through and through.
 May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept
 blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
 May the peace of God, which transcends all
 understanding, guard your hearts and minds in
 Christ Jesus.
 Amen.