



**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST IN THE PHILIPPINES**  
**Laity and Local Church Development Ministries**  
**Christian Education and Nurture**

**LITURGICAL RESOURCE MATERIAL FOR THE MONTHLY EMPHASIS**  
**EY 2022-2023**

**Theme:** “Affirming Christ’s Mission: A Continuing Work to Rebuild and Restore”

**Biblical Text :** Judges 18:6 (NRSV); Jeremiah 3:12; John 10:10

**Emphasis :** Mission Sunday

### **Notes for Worship Preparations**

For the Church altar preparation both the in physical altar and the live stream set up, it is suggested to create a worship center with an open Bible, Lighted Christ Candle, Cross with Stole or piece of cloth, flowers, and plants.

### **Symbols to be used for the worship:**

Candle, Bible, Cross with Stole, and Goodies for the community pantry activity.

### **Reflection**

The MISSION of the Church is the realization of the three (3) pronged ministry of Jesus- the preaching, teaching, and healing. The Church has to proclaim “good news” to the world, to teach and provide a meaningful experience in the community amidst an unjust social condition that contribute to suffering and imbalance of the entire creation. Affirming Christ’s Mission: A Continuing Work to Rebuild and Restore the broken world is to bring healing and wholeness from its brokenness.

### **John 10:10 (NRSV)**

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

The text explains Jesus’ main purpose that focuses on the welfare and the totality of life (health, provision of water and food for the daily need of the sheep and access to good pasture and full protection). Under his care and watch the shepherd make sure that the entire flock can experience the best that life can offer in spite and despite of the threats and perils that surround them. In the context of John’s emphasis on fullness of life, John picture out the continuing presence of Jesus, who can give new meaning to fullness of life because he provides full satisfaction and perfect guidance to the sheep.

God’s mission entrusted to the church is to work rigidly for the realization of God’s kingdom on earth. God’s kingdom is best exemplified by the ‘good news’ of Jesus Christ through his life and ministries. The church need to pass on this “good news” from generation to generation to make believers be fully aware and deeply rooted in faith. The church must be intentional in doing its mission to and in the world. Our proclamation of the Word as witnesses and our action as a body must be strongly based on

our profound theological understanding of our faith and mission. We need to see to it that our agenda for healing and reconciliation must be carried out and experienced by the people. The church need to seek ways to bring about reconciliation with our God, to our fellow human beings and the whole creation in order to live life in its fullness.

## THE LITURGY

### WORDS TO PONDER

*“A call to mission is only real when it is acted upon-  
when we have received it and the responded.”*

*General Brian Peddle, Salvation Army*

### PRELUDE

### PROCESSIONAL

### MINISTERIAL GREETINGS

**Minister:** The peace of God be with you

**People:** and also, with you!

**Minister:** We rejoice in our coming together! We are creating a sense of community, belonging to one household, affirming God’s mission. We welcome all and invite everyone to share in the life of the church.

### CHORAL INTROIT      **"There's A Spirit of Love in This Place"    Church Choir**

Words and Music by: Mark A. Miller

Arranged by: Ms. Agape M. Labuntog

<https://www.facebook.com/CMACASSEMBLY66/videos/1097695307445869>

There’s a spirit of love in this place, there’s a spirit of God in this place  
You can’t see it but it’s there just as precious as the air  
There’s a spirit of God in this place.

**Chorus:** *O alleluia, sing alleluia! We bless your holy name  
O Alleluia, sing Alleluia, there’s a spirit of God in this place.*

There’s the presence of peace in this room,  
There’s the presence of peace in this room  
In God’s tenderness is found peace that passes human bounds  
There’s a presence of peace in this room.

### LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

## CALL TO CELEBRATION

**Liturgist:** Family of God, breathe in and feel the love of God with in us.

**People:** *(deep breath in)*

**Liturgist:** Beloved Children of God, breathe out your self-doubts.

**People:** *(deep breath out)*

**Liturgist:** Knowing that we are loved by the God of the Universe, let us welcome each one to our worship today.

**People:** *(Look at all people around you and smile)*

**Liturgist:** Within each of our lives there is a longing for community and the presence of God.

**People:** Sometimes we worry that we will walk alone, unnoticed, and afraid.

**Liturgist:** This day Christ tells us that we will never be alone. All members in the household of God will share in our journey.

**People:** And this journey calls us to continue affirming Christ's mission - to continue the work in rebuilding and restoring the world.

**Liturgist:** As people called for mission, may the life and mission of Jesus live on in us and through us.

**People:** Come, let us respond to the call and gather as a community of faith, to share the cost of discipleship.

**Liturgist:** With deeds of bold mercy and courageous justice, let shout with joy and sing praise to our God!!

## \*\*HYMN OF CELEBRATION "My Eyes Have Seen the Glory" HFJ# 392

*Words: Julia Ward Howe, 1861:alt., United States camp-meeting tune, 19<sup>th</sup> century*

My eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;  
Who is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;  
And has loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword:  
God's truth is marching on.

Refrain:

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!  
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! God's truth is marching on.

God has been have seen him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps;  
Where they build a scared altar in the evening dews and damps;  
I can read the righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps;  
God's day is marching on. [Refrain]

God has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;  
and is sifting out the hearts of all before his judgment seat;  
O be swift, my soul, to answer him; be jubilant, my feet!  
Our God is marching on. [Refrain]

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,  
With a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me;

As Christ's died to make us holy, let us die that all be free!  
While God is marching on. [Refrain]

**\*\*INVOCATION**

**(Unison)**

Loving and redeeming God, Your love ignites and lifts our hearts, captures, and tickles our imaginations, shapes our dreams, and awakens possibilities. Make us disciples on fire with your love that we may bring good news to the afflicted, liberty to captives, sight to the blind, and freedom to the oppressed. Help us, God, to arouse in others a sense of hope that transformation is possible if we all work with strong zeal to do God's mission in rebuilding and restoring the whole inhabited earth which we celebrate today in our worship to make our coming together meaningful. We pray in Christ Jesus our Savior. Amen.

**THE CALL TO CONFESSION WITH HYMN SINGING**

**Liturgist:** God cannot be pleased at where we are in these moments.

**People:** God can't be pleased with the kind of treatment given to those seeking refuge when houses were lost during calamities, displaced caused by the so called "development", demolition, militarization, and land grabbing.

**Singing:** "Not My Brother, nor My Sister #217 (Stanza 1)

*Words: African-American spiritual; alt.*

*Music: African- American spiritual*

*Not my brother, nor my sister but it's me O God standing in the need of prayer,*

*Not my brother, nor my sister but it's me O God standing in the need of prayer.*

*It's me, it's me O God, standing in the need of prayer*

*It's me, it's me O God, standing in the need of prayer*

**Liturgist:** God can't be pleased with the hatred of people towards others because of their color, gender orientation, social status, faith expression and race.

**People:** God can't be pleased with people not caring for the sick, the hungry, the abused, broken and without freedom caused by injustices.

**Singing:** "Not My Brother, nor My Sister #217 (Stanza 2)

*Words: African-American spiritual; alt.*

*Music: African- American spiritual*

*Not my preacher, nor my deacon but it's me O God standing in the need of prayer*

*Not my preacher, nor my deacon but it's me O God standing in the need of prayer*

*It's me, it's me O God, standing in the need of prayer*

*It's me, it's me O God, standing in the need of prayer*

**Liturgist:** God Can't be pleased with the negligence to care for God's creation, the destruction of the environment, and the displacements of the indigenous people which denies them the right to live in their ancestral domain.

**People:** God can't be pleased with the increasing poverty and decreasing opportunities for people to experience the fullness of life, while only few hold the wealth of the world in their hands.

**Singing:** **“Not My Brother, nor My Sister #217 (Stanza 3)**

*Words: African-American spiritual; alt.*

*Music: African- American spiritual*

*Not my father, nor my mother but it's me O God standing in the need of prayer*

*Not my father, nor my mother but it's me O God standing in the need of prayer*

*It's me, it's me O God, standing in the need of prayer*

*It's me, it's me O God, standing in the need of prayer*

**All:** God can't be pleased with the people who have replaced him with other gods like social position and status, prestige, spiritual uprightness, social exclusivity, self-righteousness, greed, and religious abandonment of mission and service.

**Liturgist:** Come, let acknowledge our shortcomings and confess our sins before God. Let us humbly recognize our shortcomings towards others whom we consider different from us and the whole of God's creation. In silence let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

#### **SILET PRAYER OF CONFESSION(with flute instrumental music)**

**Singing:** **“Not My Brother, nor My Sister #217 (Stanza 4)**

*Words: African-American spiritual; alt.*

*Music: African- American spiritual*

*Not the stranger, nor the neighbor but it's me O God standing in the need of prayer*

*Not the stranger, nor the neighbor but it's me O God standing in the need of prayer*

*It's me, it's me O God, standing in the need of prayer*

*It's me, it's me O God, standing in the need of prayer*

#### **THE ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND GRACE**

**Minister:** Jesus offered us all the blessings when he announced, “Blessed are the poor in spirit

**People:** ... but we have been rich in pride.

**Minister:** “Blessed are those who mourn,”

**People:** ...but we have not known much sorrow for our sin.

**Minister:** “Blessed are the meek,”

**People:** ...but we are a stiff-necked people.

**Minister:** “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,”

**People:** ...but we are filled to the full of other things.

**Minister:** “Blessed are the merciful”

**People:** ...but we are harsh and impatient.

**Minister:** "Blessed are the pure in heart"

**People:** ...but we have impure hearts.

**Minister:** "Blessed are the peacemakers"

**People:** ...but we have not sought reconciliation.

**Minister:** "Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness"

**People:** ...but our lives do not challenge the world.

**Minister:** "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me"

**People:** ...but we have hardly made it known that we are God's people.

**Minister:** Your Law is holy, and God's benedictions are perfect, but they are both too great for us. Therefore, God give us the blessing of your righteousness and forgiveness and make us whole again from our brokenness. People of God, be glad and rejoice forevermore.

## **PASSING OF PEACE**

### **"Caribbean Hallelujah"**

*Words: Caribbean verse*

*Music: Caribbean Original Music*

Halle, halle, hallelujah, Halle, halle, hallelujah

Halle, halle, hallelujah, hallelujah! Hallelujah!

(Repeat 3x)

## **CHURCH AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS**

### **COMMUNITY PRAYER**

God of compassion, truth, and grace- Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. You are good and You are loving; You are faithful, and You are strong. You are always near us, and You hear us when we pray,

Hear us as we pray for those we love who are sick or injured, hurting in body, soul, mind, or spirit. Please heal them.

Hear us when we pray for those who grieve today-whether the hurt is new or lingering. Please give them comfort in Your presence and hope by Your resurrection.

Hear us as we pray for our nation, for our leaders. Guide them in truth, justice, and compassion so that they will lead us in right paths not for political gain or for personal agendas but truly for the good of all people, especially the most vulnerable.

And please protect those who serve to protect us and the care-providers - the uniform workers, medical workers, and aid workers.

We ask for Your grace and protection for those displaced by storms or fires and for all those working to aid them whether by restoring power, offering food, water, shelter, or supplies.

We pray for blessings and protection for all those professions whose dedication and commitment give empowerment and education to people to have a sustainable life.

For families- we pray that in purity and love, fidelity and compassion, perseverance, and grace You will redeem broken families and strengthen all homes.

For the sick- we pray for Your healing.

For the grieving-we pray for Your hope and comfort.

For the lonely- we pray for Your companionship and the caring presence of Your people.

For the unemployed- we pray for meaningful work.

For the homeless- we pray for a decent place to call home.

For the hopeless-we pray for light to break into the darkness to show the way out.

For the Church workers- we pray for all to have the willingness to follow wherever You lead them; to be one in truth, one in spirit, and one in serving, encouraging, and caring for one another, with fellow pastors and members in the church and the communities.

For Your church- remind us that we are your people called for mission. We pray for unity in essentials of our faith in Jesus Christ as our Lord; for diversity and freedom in non-essentials guided by Your Word and Spirit; and for grace, love, and charity in all things, to Your glory!

This we pray in the name of Jesus the Christ, our Lord and Savior. AMEN

## RESPONSE

### **“O Hear Our Prayers, Almighty God” HFJ # 83**

*Words and Music: Anonymous; Eng. Tranl. Melchizedek M. Solis, 1972*

*O hear our pray’r, Almighty God,*

*In faith and trust we make our plea.*

*O, hear our pray’r, O loving God,*

*As is your will, so let it be, SO LET IT BE.*

## **\*\*SCRIPTURE READING**

## **ANTHEM**

## **MESSAGE**

## **CALL TO OFFERING**

**Liturgist:** Today we call upon you as children of God to share in the mission of Jesus. We, as a faithful community-the Body of Christ, continue in our day to witness and affirm God’s mission in rebuilding and restoring the earth. To manifest our faithfulness and witness, let us bring our gifts, talents, and resources through our offerings.

## **OFFERING OF LIFE AND LABOR**

## **OFFERTORY MUSIC**

## THE PROCESSION OF THE “IN-KIND” OFFERING FOR MISSION WORK THROUGH THE COMMUNITY PANTRY

### **\*\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE “Blessed Are They Lord, Who Offer To You” HFJ #96**

*Words: Sulpicio V. Pinero Eng. Transl.: Feliciano Ursos, 2002*

*Music: Song of the Travelers; Nicanor Abelardo*

Blest are they, lord, who offer to you, joyful hearts with sincerity.  
Jesus Christ, grant to them grace abounding and love overflowing from you Lord, our God.  
Blessed are they Lord, who offer to you, joyful hearts with sincerity  
Jesus Christ grant to them grace abounding  
And blessings from heaven they'll surely receive.

Bulahan ang mohatag kanila, kasingkasing mobati gayod  
Si jesus and mohatag kanila sa grasya ug gugma mo, O among Dios.  
Bulahan ang mohatag kanila, kasingkasing mobati gayod  
Si jesus and mohatag kanila sa grasya ug gugma mo, O among Dios.

### **\*\*LITANY OF AFFIRMATION IN DOING GOD’S MISSION (from the UCCP Mission Statement)**

**Minister:** We, the members of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines, affirming our common faith heritage and mission mandate, centered, and founded in the Living Christ, cognizant of our diverse historical traditions and experiences, but sensitive to the problems and challenges of the contemporary society where we are located, do commit ourselves to the pursuit of the following life purposes:

**People:** to be a caring, sharing faith community learning and living out Jesus’ example as a servant-prophet to the people,

**Minister:** to transform our life-work as a church towards becoming a more effective witness to the church’s vision

**People:** to be a faithful proclaimer of the gospel of Shalom to and with the people

**Minister:** to work in solidarity with all other sectors and groups in society, and with other faith communities who share with UCCP’s vision of society

**People:** to continue to work for unity and reconciliation among our own people

**All:** We intend to live out these life purposes drawing strength from the resources of our faith heritage, from the edifying traditions and lessons of our history as a church, from the stories of faith, hope and struggle of the Filipino people including the martyrs, and from the empowerment that can only come from the Holy Spirit.

### **\*\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT “Go Tell Everyone” HFJ # 240**

*Words and Music by: Don Scott, Tanya Goodman Sykes, and Michael Sykes*

*(While the hymn of commitment is sung, the special offering for mission shall be offered)*

God’s Spirit is in my heart He has called me and set me apart.

This is what I have to do, what I have to do

**Chorus:**

*He sent me to give the Good News to the poor  
Tell prisoners that they are prisoners no more  
Tell blind people that they can see, and set the downtrodden free  
And go tell everyone the news that the Kingdom of God has come  
And go tell everyone, the news That God's Kingdom has come.*

Just as the Father sent me, so I'm sending you out to be,  
My witnesses throughout the world, the whole of the world. (Repeat Chorus)

Don't worry what you have to say, don't worry because on that day  
God's Spirit will speak in your heart Will speak in your heart. Repeat Chorus)

**\*\*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**

**Minister**

Brothers and sisters in Christ, as we are about to fulfill our charge to mission, please be guided with these words from the scriptures; "The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners." (Isaiah 61:1)

"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:19) The blessing of God the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Sustainer be with you all now and always. Amen

**RESPONSE.**

**"Go Tell Everyone" HFJ # 240 (Chorus Only)**

*Words and Music by: Don Scott, Tanya Goodman Sykes, and Michael Sykes*

**Chorus:**

He sent me to give the Good News to the poor  
Tell prisoners that they are prisoners no more  
Tell blind people that they can see, and set the downtrodden free  
And go tell everyone the news that the Kingdom of God has come  
And go tell everyone, the news That God's Kingdom has come.

**POSTLUDE**

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**REFERENCES:**

1. *UCCP Hymn of a Faith Journey*
2. **Richard Herman**, <https://thepastorsworkshop.com/prayers-of-the-people-prayers-of-intercession-on-mission/>
3. *Corporate Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon | Monergism*

4. <https://place.asburyseminary.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1004&context=engaginggovernmentpapers>
5. <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/prophet-margins/twelfth-sunday-after-pentecost-year-c-lectionary-planning-notes/twelfth-sunday-after-pentecost-year-c-liturgical-resources>

*The liturgy was prepared by REV. BERNADETTE SUSAS- CURAN, Deputy Conference Minister of CMAC- NWMJ*

*Christian Education and Nurture Sunday*

*September 04, 2022*

**Theme: Equipping Believers for Wholistic Growth Towards the Full Life**

**Text: Ezekiel 44:23**

*“They shall teach my people the difference between the Holy and the common, and show them how to distinguish between the unclean and the clean.”*

**Hebrews 8:11**

*“And they shall not teach one another or say to each other, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest.”*

**Mark 6:34**

*“As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.”*

**Notes for Worship Preparations & Symbols:**

- Mung bean sprouts/ squash seedlings/ coconut seedling--- a symbol for growth and life.  
If using mongo seeds for seedlings, it must be prepared before the Sunday comes so it can be seen when displayed in the altar. If the worship area is big enough, coconut seedlings may be used so everyone can see it.
- Decorate the Altar with the presence of UCCP CBL, Jurisprudence , Magna Carta for Church workers, VCS materials, Sunday school materials, Hymns, Pastoral statements and other faith documents of UCCP

## Reflection

I asked permission from Ate Lorena Blaso, a Masters of Divinity Junior student of Union Theological Seminary to post the drawing below in connection with my short reflection for our celebration of the Christian Education and Nurture Sunday. This illustration reflects our theme for this Sunday, “Equipping Believers for Wholistic Growth towards the Full Life. We, the Church involve ourselves in the concerns of the community where we belong as catalyst of change. We teach and make disciples even outside the boundaries of the church structure and uses the teaching-learning method which is redemptive and inclusive. The teaching ministry of the Church through our Christian Education and Nurture reminds us the following important affirmations:

### 1. Teaching as One of the Primary Ministries of Christian Believers.

This may sound a cliché but it is worth mentioning that “education is a life- long process.” It involves not just one phase of our lives but also involves our day to day living. It is the same with Christian Education. It doesn't just revolve within a committee and is not limited to some programs and activities only. I remember a Pastor told me once that Christian Education and Nurture is the bloodline of the Church----- everything we do in the church is Christian education. Without it, the Church would be chaotic and meaningless. This could be the same with Jesus' description of the crowd in our scripture passage---- *like sheep without a shepherd*.

Jesus himself recognized the importance of education. When he saw the crowd, *he responded with compassion and he began to teach them many things*. As a community of faith that follow Christ, we affirm that teaching is one of our primary ministries. The following are worth to be considered:

#### A. *The Current Situation of Christian Education and Nurture in our local churches*

- What challenges do we face in doing the ministry of CEN in our local church? (e.i. limited access for learning; lack of sustainability for nurturing; lack of in-depth understanding of our task as a Church.)

#### B. *The Role of Teachers and Nurturers as Shepherd*

- Discuss ways on how teachers and nurturers become good shepherds

### 2. Teaching as Part of Our Accountability to One Another

In our Old Testament scripture, we learned that the Priest from the tribe of Levi, has the only power and authority in communicating with God in behalf of the Israelites. They have the full responsibility in teaching the people. “*They shall teach my people the difference between the Holy and the common, and show them how to distinguish between the unclean and the clean.*” (Ezekiel 44:23). No one knows, if no one teaches. No one teaches, if no one calls. The calling will remain as is if no one responds. God is calling us! God is summoning us as priesthood of all believers.

*“Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual; house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 2:4-5).* We are accountable of teaching one another.

Teaching is discipleship , therefore,

- We teach to equip believers to become profound in their faith in Jesus Christ
- We teach believers to empower them to become witnesses of Christ to the world

### **3. Teaching as an Important Tool in Equipping Believers**

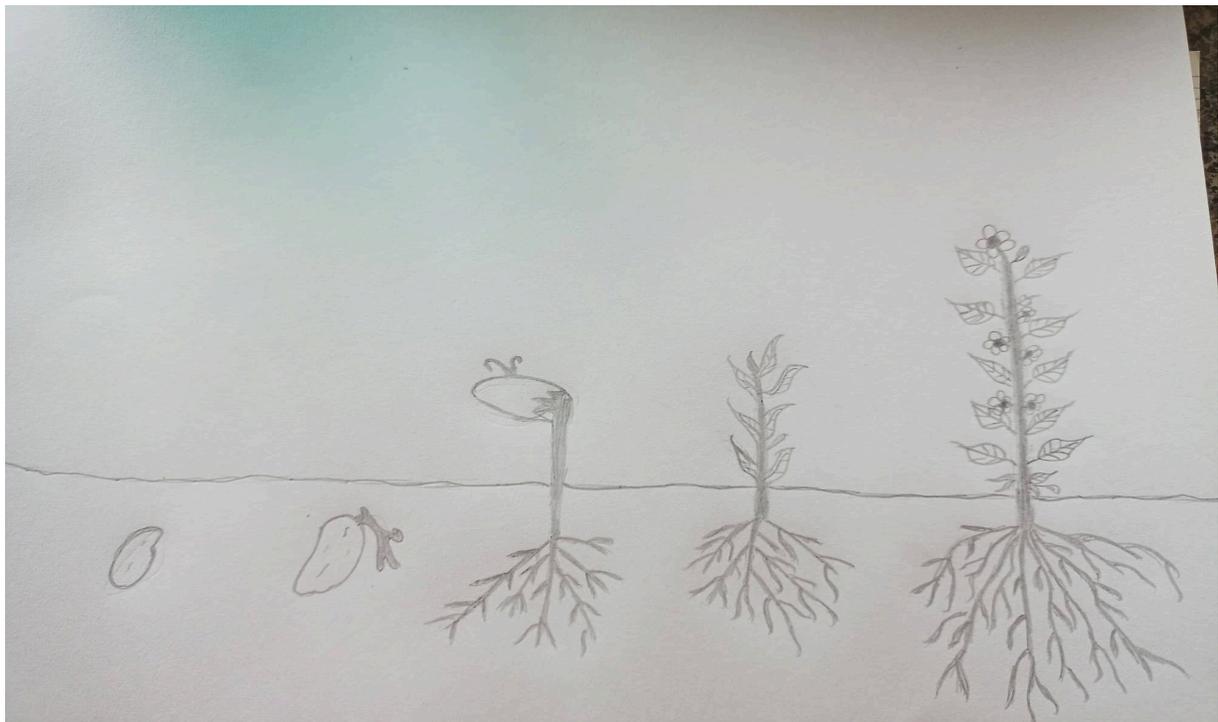
We hear the popular saying, *“Never underestimate the power of a planted seed.”* We could see from the second illustration drawn by John Erick, a ministerial student of Union Theological Seminary, he is from Occidental Mindoro Associate Conference, that planting and harvesting doesn't happen overnight. It takes time. It undergoes a process. It needs water and sunlight. This is likely the same in terms of our teaching ministry. The seeds of faith that were planted in our hearts will grow soon. It takes patience and endurance. But the process of growing takes time, it takes effort, commitment and dedication. We are being equipped as we teach and learn everyday.

Teaching is nurturing, therefore,

- We teach to help believers develop or grow not just physically but in the different aspects of their lives (the totality of their personhood)
- We teach to equip believers with necessary tools and understanding as they respond to and participate in the ministries of the Church.

Christian Education and Nurture as an integral ministry of the Church, is an expression of its faith commitment and mission calling. They are the visible manifestation of the Church’s being, doing and continuous knowing. It embodies the Church’s life-work as it journeys on towards its set goals.

The church, in undertaking its programs, should ever be conscious that its overall mission is a gift of an opportunity to contribute to the working out of God’s plan for the renewal and transformation of God’s creation. It must recognize that part of such gift is to be called to be part of the task greater than any of its best efforts. It is an empowerment of the Spirit that can only be carried out as a humble and penitent response to what God has already done and is still doing by God’s own grace and love. It is a privilege and a blessed opportunity to serve and be of meaningful use in the greater scheme of God for all creation. (*UCCP Strategic Plan 2002*)



## THE LITURGY

### Words for Silent Meditation

*“Christian Education and Nurture as an integral ministry of the Church, is an expression of its faith commitment and mission calling. They are the visible manifestation of the Church’s being, doing and continuous knowing. It embodies the Church’s life-work as it journeys on towards its set goals.” (UCCP Strategic Plan 2002)*

### PROCESSIONAL

### ENTRANCE OF SYMBOLS

### LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE & OPENING OF THE BIBLE

### CALL TO GATHERING

**Liturgist: Let us sing joyfully to the Lord, the source of wisdom and understanding!**

**People: (singing)** *When the Spirit of the Lord is within my heart, I can sing like Mary sung*

*When the spirit of the Lord is within my heart, I can sing like Mary sung.*

*I can sing, O Lord, I can sing, O Lord, I can sing like Mary sung*

*I can sing, O Lord, I can sing, O Lord, I can sing like Mary sung.*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TTjhzf22E1k>

**Liturgist: We come rejoicing with an openness to unlearn, learn, and relearn according to God’s Word.**

**All:** Come, people of God! Let us celebrate! Let us learn together with God in this moment of worship!

### +HYMN OF PRAISE

### “Sing Praise To God For Life”

**HFJ # 372**

*Words: Bill Wallace, New Zealand; Arr, Alison Carey*

*Music: Kenyan Melody*

Sing praise to God, sing praise to God for life,  
For beauty, hope and love, for tenderness and grace,

Sing praise to God, sing praise to God for life,  
With all of earth sing the praise of God's life.

Lift up our eyes to see the works of God,  
In every blade of grass, in every human face,  
Lift up your eyes to see the works of God,  
Throughout all life in all time and all space.

Reach out your hands and share the wealth God gave,  
With those who are oppressed, and those who fell alone,  
Reach out your hands and gently touch with Christ,  
Each frozen heart which has said "No"! to love.

Through all our life we'll love the God who cares,  
We'll love the God who cares and spirit of all care,  
Through all your life we'll serve the God who cares,  
And sing God's praise with our eyes, hands and hearts.

#### **+ OPENING PRAYER**

God of Wisdom, we acknowledge your presence among us as our Great Teacher. Invite us, your people, to experience your holiness as our God. Open our minds that we may understand your teachings and instructions. Inspire our hearts and soul to learn from your righteousness. Fill us with understanding through the help of the Holy Spirit. We ask this in the name of the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, Jesus our Rabbi. Amen.

#### **+ SONG RESPONSE            "When The Spirit of The Lord"**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TTjhzf22E1k>

When the Spirit of the Lord is within my heart, I can pray like Jesus prayed

When the spirit of the Lord is within my heart, I can pray like Jesus prayed.

I can pray, O Lord, I can pray, O Lord, I can pray like Jesus prayed.

I can pray, O Lord, I can pray, O Lord, I can pray like Jesus prayed.

### **CALL TO CONFESSION (Liturgist)**

As a community of faith, we affirm that God listens to our prayers. When we approach God with humility, our brokenness is mended, and will lead us to the restoration of our whole being. We draw near to God with conviction that our prayers are heard as we respond humbly to Isaiah's summon: *Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near (Isaiah 55:6).*

### **LITANY OF CONFESSION**

**Liturgist: Forgive us Lord, we fail to seek You for we are busy seeking our own comforts.**

**Children & youth:** Forgive us Lord, when we don't want to listen to your teachings and instructions for we find it boring and uninteresting. We spend our time with nonsense issues. We are easily deceived by dysinformations and fake news because we are lazy to do research and study. We are easily distracted by online games and up-to-date trends. We acknowledge our lack of nourishment for our whole being. Awaken us oh God, from this deep-sleep called "STAGNATION".

**All: GOD HAVE MERCY.**

**Liturgist: Forgive us Lord, when we fail to seek Your understanding and pass it on faithfully to our children.**

**Parents:** Forgive us Lord, when we fail to nurture our children and grand-children. We become controlling. We don't acknowledge their selves as full individuals capable of doing great things. We couldn't hear their voices because we choose to shun our ears from them. We forgot that we are accountable for their growth and wellness. Awaken us oh God, from this deep-sleep called "APATHY"

**All: CHRIST HAVE MERCY.**

**Liturgist: Forgive us Lord, when we fail to call out Your name for we are busy calling ourselves Christian educators yet we fail to acknowledge that we are heralds of full life.**

**CEN Committee Members:** Forgive us Lord, when we are afraid to teach the wholistic message of Your kin-dom because we are afraid of the consequences. We become contented with the status quo of teaching-learning method instead of discovering the dynamic form of creative and inclusive teaching and learning. We indulge ourselves to the lies that we cannot make any change. We questioned our worth as your channel of learning and understanding. Awaken us oh God, from this deep-sleep called "COMPLACENCY".

**All: GOD HAVE MERCY.**

**Liturgist: Forgive us Lord, when we fail as a community of believers to call out Your name as our God and to respond to Your summon for our active participation in proclaiming the full life.**

**All:** Forgive us Lord, when we don't give a high value to the relevance of the teaching ministry of the Church. We have reservations in teaching your Gospel. We became placid to the struggles of our neighbors. We compromised our faith just to be safe from red-tagging. Forgive us oh Lord when our fear is stronger than our faith. Awaken us oh God, from this deep-sleep called "FEAR".

**All: CHRIST HAVE MERCY.**

**SONG OF CONFESSION      "HolyWisdom,Lamp of Learning"      HFJ#328**

*Words: Ruth C. Duck*

(1<sup>st</sup> Stanza)

Holy Wisdom, lamp of learning, bless the light that reason lends.  
Teach us judgment as we kindle sparks of thought your Spirit sends.  
Sanctify our search for knowledge and the truth that sets us free.  
Come, illumine mind and spirit joined in deepest unity.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON      (Minister)**

Friends, the God who called us by name---the Triune God who planted seeds of faith and understanding in our hearts, is able to see our stagnation, complacency, apathy, and fear. This is the same God that is now reminding us once again the assurance of forgiveness. God's forgiveness abounds as the word of the Lord echoes to us through God's covenant with Israel, saying: *I will put my laws in their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. (Hebrews 8:10)*

People of God, believe the good news, In Christ, we are all forgiven.

**SONG RESPONSE      "Thank You Lord"**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bHXaTurXV-M>

Thank You Lord, for saving \*our soul, Thank you Lord for making \*us whole,  
Thank you Lord for giving to \*us, Your great salvation so rich and free.

**GREETINGS OF PEACE**

**CHURCH AT PRAYER**

**SONG RESPONSE**

**HFJ328**

**Holy Wisdom, Lamp of Learning**

*Words: Ruth C. Duck*

(2<sup>ND</sup> Stanza)

Vine of truth in you we flourish; by your grace we learn and grow.  
May the Word of Christ among us shape our life, our search to know.  
Joined to Christ in living, dying, may we help the church convey  
Witness to the saving gospel, bearing fruit of faithful day.

**PROCLAMATION OF GOD’S WORD**

**+ AS READ:**

**+ RESPONSE                    “When The Spirit of The Lord”**

When the Spirit of the Lord is within my heart, I can teach like Jesus taught.  
When the spirit of the Lord is within my heart, I can teach like Jesus taught.  
I can teach, O Lord, I can teach, O Lord, I can teach like Jesus taught.  
I can teach, O Lord, I can teach, O Lord, I can teach like Jesus taught.

**AS SUNG**

**AS SHARED**

**RESPONSE**

**“When The Spirit of The Lord”**

When the Spirit of the Lord is within my heart, I can preach like Jesus preached.  
When the spirit of the Lord is within my heart, I can preach like Jesus preached.  
I can preach, O Lord, I can preach, O Lord, I can preach like Jesus preached.  
I can preach O Lord, I can preach, O Lord, I can preach like Jesus preached.

## **CALL TO OFFERING (Liturgist)**

In a society full of darkness, deception, and discrimination, our Great Shepherd invites us to be catalyst of change as we grow in God's Wisdom and generosity. The giving of our lives and gifts is a manifestation of our interdependence and connectedness as member of God's flock.

## **OFFERING OF LIFE AND LABOR**

### **+ DOXOLOGY:**

Praise God the Source of life and birth.  
Praise God the Son who came to earth.  
Praise God the Spirit, Holy flame.  
All glory, honor to God's Name. Amen.

Or

### **“When The Spirit of The Lord”**

When the Spirit of the Lord is within my heart, I can give like Jesus gave.

When the spirit of the Lord is within my heart, I can give like Jesus gave.

I can give, O Lord, I can give, O Lord, I can give like Jesus gave.

I can give O Lord, I can give, O Lord, I can give like Jesus gave.

### **+ OFFERTORY PRAYER: (Unison)**

Fountain of Life and Wisdom, we thank you for inviting us to be participants in the establishment of your Kin-dom. Thank you for planting the seeds of Your righteousness within us in order for us to respond to the cry of the outcast and oppressed. Thank you for your generosity that inspire us to share our resources to our brothers and sisters. May we continue to grow in wisdom and stature, pleasing before You and before one another, as we offer our lives and gifts through Jesus the Christ. Amen.

### **+ HYMN OF COMMITMENT**

**HFJ # 188**

### **We Want to Learn to Live in Love**

*Words: Unknown*

*Music: Robert Schumann, 1839*

We want to learn to live in love to follow what is good and true

Through friends at church at home, at play, we find what God would have us do.

When we are sad or feeling mean and fail to love or to be fair  
Our friends at church, at home, at play, can help us know that God does care.

When others are unkind to us and make us want to cry or fight  
We can reach out to be good friends and help them know that love is right.

#### + PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

**Liturgist:** Almighty God, You are the source of wisdom and understanding. Apart from your Truth, we are like sheep without shepherd.

**People:** As the day begins with the rising sun, we begin our journey of faith by affirming that we are not alone in this journey. We affirm that You are with us through the Guidance of your Wisdom.

*(a member of CEN Committee will water the 1<sup>st</sup> pot of mung bean sprouts/ squash seedling)*

**People:** We affirm that the Guidance of your Wisdom leads our souls to thirst for your teaching and instructions.

*(member of CEN Committee will water the 2<sup>nd</sup> pot of mung bean sprouts/ squash seedling)*

**Liturgist:** Compassionate Teacher, be with us. Help us to see the relevance of an in-depth study of your Word.

**People:** We ask You to mold our lives according to your statutes; guide our feet according to your decrees; empower our hands for work according to your justice.

*(member of CEN Committee will water the 3<sup>rd</sup> pot of mung bean sprouts/ squash seedling)*

**Liturgist:** Loving Teacher, be with us. Bind us together in Your love.

**All:** We ask You to mold our lives according to your statutes; guide our feet according to your decrees; empower our hands for work according to your justice.

#### + BENEDICTION: (Minister)

May the Fountain of Wisdom nourish your soul.

May the God of Wisdom embrace your whole being.

May the Presence of Wisdom guide you, both now and forever. Amen.

**+ SONG RESPONSE:**

**“When The Spirit of The Lord”**

When the Spirit of the Lord is within my heart, I can grow like seedlings grew

When the spirit of the Lord is within my heart, I can grew like seedling grew

I can grow, O Lord, I can grow, O Lord, I can grow like seedlings grew.

I can grow, O Lord, I can grow, O Lord, I can grow like seedlings grew.

**POSTLUDE**

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*Notes: the original lyrics of the song Thank You Lord was change from me to us for an inclusive liturgical purposes only.*

*References:*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TTjhzf22E1k>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bHXaTurXV-M>

*Hymn of our Faith Journey, UCCP, 2002*

*New Revised Standard Version Bible*

*The liturgy was prepared by Rev. Luisa Givero of SIDC-EVJ*

*CHILDREN'S SUNDAY*

*September 11, 2022*

**Theme:        “CHILDREN: HERALDS OF THE FULL LIFE”**

**Text:** Proverbs 4:1; Mark 7:27; Matthew 18:3

**REFLECTION:**



*“3 And he said: “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”*

Children are heralds of the full life. The pandemic have robbed the playtime and social interactions a child should have. It affects a child’s physical and mental abilities. Children often have a very

little control over their own lives. In healthy circumstances, children embrace the fact that they have to put their trust in other people. They trust what their parents, teachers or other adults say without a doubt or fear.

“Unless you change and become like a little child, you will never enter the kingdom of God.” God wants us to have a childlike faith. Trusting him in rebuilding and restoring our whole being in this time of pandemic. It is so good to trust God the way a child will trust his good and powerful earthly parents. Children trust their parents for wisdom, provision, protection, order and vision, Christians who learn to trust their heavenly father in the same way will live a life abundantly (John 10:10) and bear the light yoke of Christ (Mat. 11:30).

## **THE LITURGY**

### **PREPARING THE HEART**

*\*Rehearse a child to read the poem. In the last stanza of the poem, the one in-charge in the lighting of Christ Candle will march in.*

### **I AM A CHILD**

*From UCCP Guide to Celebration*

All the world awaits for my coming  
All the earth watches with interest to see what I shall become

Civilization hangs in a balance,  
For what I am, the world of tomorrow will be.

I am the child,  
I have come into the world about which I know nothing  
Why I came, I know not, I am curious, I am interested.

I am the child, you hold in your hand my destiny.  
You determine, largely, whether I shall succeed or fail.  
Give me, I pray you, those things that make for happiness

Train me, I beg you,  
That I may be a blessing to the world

### **PRELUDE**

### **LIGHTING OF CHRIST’S CANDLE**

### **PROCESSIONAL**

*{The kids will march with the symbols of heralding the Full life to create a LOGO in a small altar:*

*\*The church leader should assist the children in arranging each symbol to form the logo of our theme.*

*\* The Messenger of the word is expected to explain the meaning of the symbols during the sermon.*

**Children 1:** Brick wall- represents Nehemiah's rebuilding of the wall of Jerusalem that invites collected effort and cooperation among members of the UCCP as well as the communities.

**Children 2:** Dove carrying the missing puzzle piece- symbolizing that God calls us to rebuild and restore the world where love, peace and justice prevails. The piece of a puzzle that the dove is carrying is our humble part of a contribution to the work of peace and healing to the broken world.

**Children 3:** Green Cross- Christ's promise of an abundant and meaningful life for all.

**Children 4:** Kerosene Lamp- Christ is the light of the world and we are sharing Christ's light for the fullness of life.

**Children 5:** Vine- represents connectivity to God and God's creation.

*\*entrance of the other participants in the worship celebration while singing the introit.\**

## INTROIT

♪ "Jesus Loves Me" ♪

*WORDS: Anna B. Warner, David Rutherford Mcguire*

*MUSIC: William B. Bradbury | Hymn of Faith Journey #249*

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the bible tells me so,  
Little ones to him belong; they are weak but he is strong

Refrain:

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me  
Yes Jesus loves me, the bible tells me so

Jesus loves me this I know, as he loved so long ago  
Taking children on His knee, saying "Let them come to me". *Refrain*

Jesus loves me he will stay, close beside me on my way  
He's prepared a home for me, and someday his face I'll see. *Refrain*

## †CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive Reading)

**Liturgist:** See, children are a gift from the Lord. The children born to us are our special reward.  
(Psalm 127:3 NLV)

**All:** Bring up a child by teaching them the way they should go, and when they are old they will not turn away from it. (Proverbs 22:6 NLV)

**Liturgist:** Honor your father and your mother: that your days may be long on the land which the LORD your God gives you. (Exodus 20:12)

**All:** Children, obey your parents in the Lord: this is the right thing to do. (Ephesians 6:1)

**Liturgist:** We can do all this through God who gives us strength. (Philippians 4:13)

**All:** Trust in the Lord with all your heart. (Proverbs 3:5)

**Liturgist:** We will praise You with our whole heart. (Psalm 138:1)

**All:** This is the day the Lord has made; Let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Psalm 118:24)

†HYMN OF PRAISE

♪ “O LET US PRAISE GOD” ♪

*WORDS: Danilo C. Sanchez Eng. Transl. Reuel Norman Marigsa*

*MUSIC: Eliseo M. Pajaro | Hymn of Faith Journey #06 (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Stanza)*

1. O let us praise God, O let us praise God, the Almighty and great Lord.  
Let us gather to give thanks with our glad songs of praise  
O proclaim God’s name for ever now, to echo throughout the world  
O praise God in heaven, O praise God on earth.
2. O seek God’s blessings, O seek God’s blessings, O you people of God  
Truly serve God without fail and follow God each day  
Take the love of God with you and share it wherever you will go  
Life’s bountiful blessings to you God will bestow

†INVOCATION (Unison)

Our God, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, we thank you for today. Thank you for the gift of life for all. May we honor and worship you today. Bless this hour of worship and dwell with us that our hearts be open to receive your word as you make us the herald of your kingdom. In Christ Jesus we pray. Amen.

**Response**

♪ “O LET US PRAISE GOD” ♪

*Hymn of Faith Journey #06 (3<sup>rd</sup> Stanza)*

*Words: Danilo C. Sanchez; eng. Tranl. Reuel O. Marigza, 2002*

*Music. Eliseo M. Pavarotti*

O let us trust God, O let us trust God , our lives we must offer  
To God’s bos-som we draw near, sur-ren-der now our all  
God pours bless-ings and keep bless-ing, the rest of our days on earth.  
Let’s praise God, O people let’s praise God evermore.

**CALL TO CONFESSION (Liturgist)**

**HFJ # 413**

God have mercy. Forgive our carelessness, forgive us for any promises we broke, for any friends we failed or any persons we have hurt. Forgive our inhumanity; forgive our politics and commerce, forgive our selfishness and greed, forgive us for leaving Christ unfed, unhoused, without healing and without hope. Forgive us as we bring ourselves and our possessions back to you in Christ’s name. Lord, have mercy.

**SONG OF CONFESSION**

♪ “Search Me, O God” ♪

*Words: J. Edwin Orr, | Music: Maori melody  
Hymnal of Faith a Journey # 216 | First Stanza only*

Search me, O God, and know my heart today;  
Try me O Savior, Know my thoughts I pray  
See if there be some wicked way in me  
Cleanse me from every sin and set me free

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Seek the Lord while you can find him. Call on him now while he is near. Let the wicked change their ways and banish the very thought of doing wrong. Let them turn to the Lord that he may have mercy on them. Yes, turn to our God, for he will forgive generously. (*Isaiah 55:6-7*) May the God of all mercies cleanse us from our sins, and restore us in his image. Praises and glory to his name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Response**

♪ “Search Me, O God” ♪

*Words: J. Edwin Orr, | Music: Maori melody  
Hymnal of Faith a Journey # 216 | Second Stanza only*

I praise you, Lord for cleansing me from sin  
Fulfill your Word and make me pure with in.  
Fill me with fire, where once I burned in shame  
Grant my desire to glorify your name

### **PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE**

*UCCP Liturgical Resources, May 1990*

God of justice and peace, we humbly come before your presence. Help us to do the task you have given us, for you are our strength and our deliverer. In this time of uncertainties, in this time of pandemic where many lives are at lost. In the midst of deception and injustices where many are kept in the dark and the bad seems so right. May the light of your truth show us the way, help us to live in childlike faith where we put our trust in You and follow your leading. Guide us in our decisions that we may ever walk. Showing others the same compassion and love with Christ who is the way, the truth, and the life. Empower us, O God, that we may stand with passion for truth and justice. Help us to inspire all the children and be inspired by them to be the herald of fullness of life in You. Like a warm fire of love amid the coldness of self-seeking. Help us to accept nothing but your guidance to serve nothing but your glory. Help us, O Lord, to express our religiosity not in outward rituals and ceremonies, but in inner devotion of our hearts. And in true and ungrudging service to you and our fellowmen.

In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.

### **Response**

♪ “SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER” ♪

*Words: William Walford | Music: William B. Bradburry  
Hymnal of Faith a Journey # 219 | 3<sup>rd</sup> Stanza only*

Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer!  
Whose wings shall my petition bear  
To One whose truth and faithfulness engage the waiting soul to bless.  
And since I'm bid to seek God's face, believe God's word and trust God's grace,  
I'll cast away my every care, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer.

†**SCRIPTURE READING**

**RESPONSE:**

♪“Gloria Patri”♪

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
World without end, Amen, Amen.

**ANTHEM**

**SERMON**

**“CHILDREN: HERALDS OF THE FULL LIFE”**

**SPECIAL PRAYER FOR THE CHILDREN**

Minister

*(The minister may ask the children to come forward and instruct them to join hands together. Ask the parents, Sunday school teachers and the church elders to position themselves behind every child then raise their right hand while praying for the children)*

**CALL TO OFFERING (Liturgist)**

“And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.” Galatians 6:9-10

Let us now give our offering to our Lord.

**OFFERTORY** *(Assign two or more children to collect the offerings.)*

†**DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God from whom all blessing flow,  
Praise God all Creatures her below  
Praise God above ye, heavenly host,  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

O Lord our God, we lay before you our offering, we give you all that we are and everything that you have entrusted to us. Come bless these gifts bless us your children. Amen

†HYMN OF DEDICATION      🎵 “JESUS LOVE EACH LITTLE CHILD” 🎵

WORDS: Tze-cgen Chao | Frank W. Price  
Chines Folk Song | Hymn of Faith Journey #187

Jesus loved each little child, on all children Jesus smiled,  
Others told them, “Go away!” Jesus beckoned: “Come and stay”

Gentle Jesus, good and kind, praised the humble childlike mind;  
All who is his love believe his dear blessing may receive.

Jesus loves each little child; children love the Savior mild.  
Bring the children to his arm, he will keep them safe from harm.

Each child with a glad and pure heart in God’s kingdom has a part;  
All with childlike faith and grace in God’s kingdom have a place.

†BENEDICTION

**Minister:** WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO GOD

Who is love and who has given the earth to all people.

**All:** WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO JESUS CHRIST

Who came to heal us, and free us from all forms of oppressions.

**Minister:** WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO THE SPIRIT OF GOD,

Who works in and through all who have yearned towards the truth.

**All:** WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH

Who are called to be at service of all people

**Minister:** WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO GOD’S PROMISE

To finally destroy the power of sin in us all,  
And to establish the reign of justice and peace for all humankind.

**All:** WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO YOU O LORD

To have a childlike faith as we put our trust in you and serve you  
And to be herald of the fullness of life in Your name, our Triune God.  
Amen. AMEN.

†Response      🎵 “ THREE -Fold Amen” 🎵

†POSTLUDE

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*Reference/s*

*Hymnal of Faith Journey, UCCP, 2002*

*The liturgy was prepared by Pastor Julie Anne Valle-Quiros of LCSMC-MLJ*

**Monthly Emphasis:** Indigenous People's Month

**Sub-theme:** "Restoring Peace with Hope"

**Text:** Nahum 1:15; Isaiah 59: 8; Romans 8: 16; 2 Peter 3: 13

**Notes for Worship Preparation:** Video clips on the large-scale mining, aftermath of Super Typhoon Odette, Lockdowns, Covid-19 victims, war between Ukraine and Russia.

### **Short Reflection**

The world without peace is like living everyday without direction. Living a peaceful life is what God wants us to live but how are we going to realize that when our world today is in a chaotic and unpeaceful living, the manifestation of the destruction of creation and relationships, discrimination, unemployment, red tagging, mental health issues, disrupted social life of our children, wars and so many other evil deeds. Our life now is like raging river but we will not lose hope, time will come we will experience peace-peace in our inner beings, in our minds and hearts, peace that will bring people to have a community that cares and love with each other. As what God has promised "new heavens and a new earth where righteousness will be at home". (2 Peter 3:13)

### *The LITURGY*

#### **PREPARATION**

#### **SILENT MEDITATION**

"Everywhere in the land, righteousness and justice will be done. Because everyone will do what is right, there will be peace and security forever" (*Isaiah 32: 16-17/ Today's English Version*)

#### **PRELUDE/PROCESSIONAL**

#### **THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

#### **GREETINGS AND WELCOMING OF THE VISITORS/WORSHIPPERS**

*(Video clips on destruction of creation, large scale, mining, aftermath of the super typhoon Odette, lockdown, COVID-19 victims, and wars)*

## INTROIT

### “Let There be Peace on Earth”

*Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me,  
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be  
With God our Creator, children all are we,  
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.*

*Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now  
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow  
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally,  
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

**Liturgist:** God calls us away from the tumult of the world, that we may focus our thoughts on things that are lasting.

**People:** In God’s presence we see our lives more clearly, the broken pieces are put back together.

**Liturgist:** God calls us out of loneliness into a life of community.

**Women:** Worshipping together, caring about one another we find out what it means to be truly human.

**Men:** But God will send us back into the world’s confusion and busyness, its brokenness and isolation.

**All:** We will worship You, Oh Lord with serenity and joy,  
strengthened by your hope and mercy to be Your servants, the bearers of peace.

## ***PRAISE AND ADORATION***

### HYMN OF PRAISE

“We Praise You O God” HFJ #3

*Words: Julia C. Cory, 1902; alt.*

*Music: Valreus, Nederlandsch Gedenklanck, 1626*

We praise You O God our Redeemer, Creator  
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring  
We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You  
We bless Your holy name glad praises we bring.

We worship You God of our mothers and fathers  
Through life's storm and tempest our guide You have been  
When perils o'er take us, you never will forsake us  
And with your help o God in Life's struggles we win

With voice united our praise we offer  
And gladly our song of thanksgiving we raise  
Our sins now confessing we pray for your blessing  
To You our great Redeemer forever be praise. Amen

### **INVOCATION** (*Unison*)

Ever-loving God, the source of peace, you have called us to enjoy Your presence. Enliven our senses now to appreciate this moment of worship and help us to commune with You so that our faith and trust be deepened. To You O God, be honor and glory forevermore. Amen

### **GLORIA PATRI**

#### ***PENITENCE AND ASSURANCE***

### **CALL TO PENITENCE** (Liturgist)

We have sung praises to Your goodness and Your Majesty and when we look into ourselves, we find that we are not worthy to even call Your name. We destroy everything You have created even our dignity and all of our humanity. Forgive us, Oh Lord and help us to repent.

*(Silent moment of reflection while soft music is playing)*

### **THE WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

**Titus 3:4-7**

But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

**AFFIRMATION OF GOD'S LOVE      "Tell My People"**

Ref. Tell my People I love them,  
Tell my people that I care,  
When they feel far away from me,  
Tell my people I am there.

Tell my people I came and died to give them liberty,  
As they abide in me, they will be really free (Ref.)

Tell my people wherever they go to claim my risen power  
My Peace and Joy and love is for them hour by hour (Ref.)

Tell my people who grieve and mourn  
That I allowed the night of darkness to descend but I am still the light. (Ref.)

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GOD'S COMMUNITY**

**SHARING OF CONCERNS AND ANNOUNCEMENT**

**THE CHURCH AT PRAYER**

**CHORAL RESPONSE:      "We Know the Lord Will Answer All Our Prayers"**

We know the Lord will answer all our prayers,  
We know the Lord will answer all our prayers,  
If we live as holy life , shut the wrong and do the right,  
We know the Lord will answer all our prayers.

**PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD**

**READING OF THE SCRIPTURE**

**MESSAGE THROUGH SONG**

**THE SPOKEN WORD**

## **RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD**

### **READING OF THE UCCP STATEMENT ON PEACEMAKING**

### **CALL TO OFFERING**

We must remember what the Lord Jesus said, "We are happier when we give than when we receive" (Acts 20: 35 NLV) Let us offer to God, the source of everything, our offerings, tithes with thanksgiving.

### **OFFERTORY SONG**

#### **DOXOLOGY**

"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" HFJ#94

*Words: Thomas Ken, 1674; alt.*

*Music: Louis Bourgeois, 1551*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise God all creatures here below

Praise God above you, heavenly host,

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (unison)**

We have received that which we do not deserve. But with Your grace, we were filled. May these symbols of gratitude and thanksgiving be worthy in Your sight O Lord. May these gifts we offer manifest the joy we share with each other and may our generosity manifest your faithfulness to your people. Amen

#### **HYM OF DEDICATION**

"We are a New Creation"

*(Tune: Lead On O Cloud of Yahweh)*

We are a new creation of Christ the living world

Our song of jubilation shall everywhere be heard

Now life blooms fresh and glorious for those who heed the call

Of Christ who reigns victorious, O'er sin and death and all.

We are a new creation of God for this new day  
As partners let us follow the life, the truth, the way.  
Christ bids us work together as colleagues old and young,  
As women, men, and nations, God's folk of every tongue.

We are a new creation for service here on earth  
We leave our faith in action to tell our Savior's worth  
Let love and justice blending, now show for all to see  
God's grace is never ending, it reaches you and me.

We are a new creation by God's own gracious hand,  
Old burden cast behind us, a daring future planned  
In ministry and mission, united let us live,  
In Christ a shining vision, To God's wide world to give.

#### **PRAYER FOR PEACE (UNISON)**

God of Justice and peace, we humbly come into Your presence, for You are our strength and our deliverer. In this time of uncertainties, may the light of Your truth show us the way. Guide us in our decisions and help us to restore peace within ourselves, in our homes, in community even in our church. We pray for the vision to see and to believe in a world free from violence, discrimination, brokenness of relationships, destruction of Your creation. May we devote our thoughts and energy to the task of making peace, praying always for the inspiration and power to fulfill Your will. This is our earnest plea. In the name of our God the source of joy peace and strength. Amen

#### **BENEDICTION (Minister)**

We cannot find peace in the absence of war  
We cannot find peace in the midst apathy and complacency  
We cannot find peace in the midst of the continuing suffering of people  
Real peace happens when the roots of conflicts and violence are removed, when a just social structure is built and when human rights and dignity are held sacred.

Let us go now into the world and join hands with peoples of the world in the common quest for peace based on justice. Above all, we should follow Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace.

Shalom!

**CHORAL RESPONSE “The Kingdom of God is where God is” HFJ#380**

*Words and Music: Laila Fuertes ,1994*

The Kingdom of God is where the God reigns, a place of love, joy, and peace.

The Kingdom of God is where the God reigns, a place of love, joy, and peace.

**POSTLUDE/RECESSIONAL**

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*References*

*Call to Worship taken from (R.C Duck, Bread for the Journey)*

*UCCP Hymnal of Faith Journey*

*UCCP Resolutions and Statements*

*The liturgy was prepared by Ptr. Ella Joy Fuertes Echin of SDDC-SEMJA*

<b>United Church Men and Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples Sunday</b> October 16, 2022
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**Sub-Theme:** “Restoring the Indigenous People’s Identity towards the Fullness of Life”

**Biblical Texts:**    **Joshua 14:9-11**

**Notes For Worship Preparation**

For a more creative celebration, for symbols of worship, use indigenous materials. The following are the important symbols of worship:

**Bamboo Cross-** The symbol of our indigenous and cultural identity as Filipino Christians.

**Bible-** The symbol of our faithful and inspired witness to God’s self-revelation. It is also the foundation of our prophetic witness and proclamation of the good news.

**Christ Candle/Torch-** the symbol of Christ light and warmth in serving God's people.

**Earth/Soil-** Symbol of the gift of God to us and to the Lumads ancestors.

**Potted Plants-**the symbol of God's gift of life

**Water-** the symbol of God's overflowing hope towards the fullness of life.

**Lumad/IP's Products** (Waived cloth, beads and etc.)- Symbol of Lumad spirituality, cultural identity, customs and traditions and;

**Tokens** (Mug, Cap, Book Marks, and etc.)- to be used as symbols of appreciation for the extraordinary efforts of the UCM in the church.

**Biblical Texts: Joshua 14:9-11**

**9** And Moses swore on that day, saying, 'Surely the land on which your foot has trodden shall be an inheritance for you and your children for ever, because you have wholly followed the LORD my God.' **10** And now, behold, the LORD has kept me alive, as he said, these forty-five years since the time that the LORD spoke this word to Moses, while Israel walked in the wilderness; and now, lo, I am this day eighty-five years old. **11** I am still as strong to this day as I was in the day that Moses sent me; my strength now is as my strength was then, for war, and for going and coming.

**Acts 28:1-6**

After we had reached safety, we then learned that the island was called Malta. **2** The local people showed us unusual kindness. Since it had begun to rain and was cold, they kindled a fire and welcomed all of us around it. **3** Paul had gathered a bundle of brushwood and was putting it on the fire when a viper, driven out by the heat, fastened itself on his hand. **4** When the local people saw the creature hanging from his hand, they said to one another, "This man must be a murderer; though he has escaped from the sea, Justice has not allowed him to live." **5** He, however, shook off the creature into the fire and suffered no harm. **6** They were expecting him to swell up or drop dead, but after they had waited a long time and saw that nothing unusual had happened to him, they changed their minds and began to say that he was a god.

**Short Reflection**

Our celebration today focuses on the realization that the Indigenous Peoples (Lumad) and cultural minority groups' spirituality, cultural identity, customs and traditions have been broken and fragmented. This sense of brokenness and fragmentations of their own spirituality and cultural identity is the result "*of our innocent, if not ignorant, of the roots, shape, growth and fruits of the "Lumads" and other cultural minority groups conflict and struggles; that we have neglected grossly the challenges and struggles faced by our sisters and brothers; that we have used more of our time, talents and treasures on the minor issues rather than on the major concerns of the here-and-now.*"

The rampant, and blatant exploitation, abuse and degradation of our IP's (Lumad) and other minority groups spirituality, cultural identity, custom and tradition leads to the miserable life-condition of our sisters and brothers. They have lost that which they consider sacred and important gift of their ancestors - their LAND. Everything that comes with it like their spirituality, cultural identity, customs and traditions including their inheritance were diminishing because of militarization and anti- people policies for development. Their lands were taken away from them by force using our state agents that gives way for legal logging industry, mining industry, dam industry and even the development of the creation of the ecotourism industry, that made them leave their ancestral domains. They were displaced and become the lost, last and the least members of our society today. Children of our Lumad sisters and brothers and other minority groups were even subject to discrimination and unable to enjoy their basic right - the right to education . The informal educational institutions were subjected to harassment, threat for closure, bombing, and malicious vilification because of this anti-people policy. Even church leaders, workers and teachers who are friends of the Lumads are not exempted from this unjust treatment of the government.

The same historical, socio-political and economic condition which our brothers and sisters experienced today also happened to the Israelites under the cruel Egyptian rule. That's why God called Moses and Joshua to become the beacon of hope for restoration of the Israelites' spirituality, cultural identity, customs and traditions towards the fullness of life in Canaan. Thus, our Lumad sisters and brothers, and other minority groups need the prophets of today for the restoration of their life, integrity and dignity as a people. We as a church must proclaim the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ with conviction, and exercise our prophetic role to challenge all forces of evil that ruins the spirituality, cultural identity, customs and traditions of our Lumad sisters and brothers and other minority groups, and restore everything that was ruined and demand the return of everything that was taken out from them. As a church we are to stand in solidarity with the Lumads for their fight to self-determination, for their right to education, right to preserve and protect their spirituality, cultural identity, customs and traditions and right to enjoy basic, social and health services. Amen.

### **The Liturgy**

#### ***The Act of Preparation***

#### **Words To Ponder**

“Our Lands, our schools, our children and our leaders-they are our life. And if they continue to grab our lands, kill our leaders, and bomb our schools, what else can we do but to stand up and fight back?”

**-Bai Bibyaon Ligkayan Bigkay, Manobo Tribal Woman Chieftain**

**Prelude** (Local Indigenous music is being played)

**Processional Song** “Una” by Kuntaw Mindanao

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l3Wit2senHY>

*(Worship Symbols such as the Cross, Bible, Christ Candle, Earth/soil, Water, Plants, Indigenous cloth or products and etc. will be brought to the chancel while the processional song is played.*

**Greetings and Welcoming**

*Pastor/Elder/Liturgist*

**Community Concerns**

### *The Act of Praise*

**Call to Worship**

*Liturgist: Come men of faith and celebrate our differences and our heritage.*

***People: Come in solidarity with our ancestors of faith and the Indigenous Peoples who invite us to struggle with them for their right to self determination, respect for their cultural identity and their struggle to ancestral domain.***

*Liturgist: Come women of faith and declare God’s abiding presence in our support to all our Indigenous sisters and brothers.*

***People: Come in solidarity with our ancestors of faith and the Indigenous Peoples who invite us to struggle with them for their right to self determination, respect for their cultural identity and their struggle to ancestral domain.***

*Liturgist: Come children of faith in solidarity with the Indigenous People’s struggles and unite ourselves in “restoring the Indigenous People’s identity towards the fullness of life”*

**Opening Hymn** “O Many People of All Lands” HFJ# 03

*Words: Natty G. Barranda*

*Music: Lois F. Bello*

O many people of all lands now come to God with praise;  
Together shall we praise our God, Lord of all culture’s ways.

O varied tongues of human kind, now congregate to sing  
With hymns of joy and wonderment, thank offering we would bring.

O fount of love, light, and life, we thank you for this day  
We are assured of your supply of grace all through the way.

Source of hope, desire and dream, just as we are we come,  
Inspired by you and your great beam to know more of your home.

From here we all go out to share in offices and homes,  
Your never failing love and care in substance, deeds, and forms.

### **Invocation [Unison]**

God of Life and History, we come to you this day to celebrate the life within us and to give you thanks for everything that you have done to us. Lord, as we celebrate the importance of the contribution of men in our faith journey and as we enjoin our hearts and minds in solidarity with our “Lumad” sisters and brothers, grant that we may become instruments of a more relevant and timely expressions of our evangelistic, and prophetic witness. Fill us with your empowering spirit through our Lord Jesus Christ our savior and friend. Amen.

### **Response**

#### **“Kumbaya”**

*Video & Performance Copyright (c) 2017 by Charles E. Szabo, BMI*  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TFffX-3wGLc>

Kumbaya, my Lord, kum bay ya;  
Kumbaya, my Lord, kum bay ya;  
Kum bay ya, my Lord, kum bay ya,  
O Lord, kum bay ya.

Someone's praying Lord kum bay ya;  
Someone's praying Lord kum bay ya;  
Someone's praying Lord kum bay ya;  
O Lord, kum bay ya.

Someone's crying Lord kum bay ya;  
Someone's crying Lord kum bay ya;  
Someone's crying Lord kum bay ya;  
O Lord, kum bay ya.

Someone's singing Lord kum bay ya;  
Someone's singing Lord kum bay ya;  
Someone's singing Lord kum bay ya;  
O Lord, kum bay ya.

### *The Act of Confession*

#### ***Call to Confession***

#### ***Liturgist***

People of God, come and let us present to God our shortcomings and sins, for closing our eyes and neglecting to see the struggles of our “Lumad” sisters and brothers. Come and in silence let us confess our sins and be reconciled to God.

#### ***Silent Prayer***

#### ***Prayer of Confession (unison)***

*O God, we confess to you all our shortcomings and our sins for our innocent, if not ignorant, of the roots, shape, growth and fruits of the “Lumads” and other cultural minority groups’ conflict and struggles; that we have neglected grossly the challenges and struggles faced by our sisters and brothers; that we have used more of our time, talents and treasures on the minor issues rather than on the major concerns of the here-and-now. Help us O God, in our aspirations and endeavors in restoring the identity of our sisters and brother “Lumads” and other cultural minority groups. This we pray in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Source of our hope in the work for restoration of life’s dignity. Amen*

#### ***Assurance of Forgiveness (Minister)***

*Dearly beloved, receive now the assurance of God’s pardon. In Jesus Christ we are all forgiven and justified by faith. Amen.*

#### **Response**

#### **“Ginawaak Manema” HFJ#42**

*Words and Music: Jun Grande (Magpet, Cotabato)*

*Eng. Trans., Grace Tabada*

*Tune: based on a Manobo motive*

Ginawaak Manema, inesinged, inesinged.

Ginawaak Manema, inesinged, inesinged.

Tinged kini igbagayden andas anak den

Dirig, dirig, dirig, kataren

Taman sa taman, taman sa taman.

What great love Creator God has for the world, has for the world,  
What great love Creator God has for the world, has for the world,  
That God gave unto the world God's own beloved Son  
So that all who would believe in him  
Never, never would be lost.  
But live forever, but live forever

### *The Act of Proclamation*

**Through the Scripture Reading**

**Joshua 14:9-11; Acts 28:1-6**

**Through Song**

**Through Meditation**

### *The Act of Giving*

#### **Call to Offering**

The God of our ancestors and of the present has already given us the fullness of life. That is why, Jesus continually calls us to gather together as a blessed community of faith to become vessels of God's abundant life towards the restoration of our sisters and brothers' identity to experience the fullness of life. Thus, we are encourage to share all our blessings, time, talent and other expressions of thanksgiving as our faithful response to God's call for restoration.

**Giving of Life and Blessings** [with offertory song or music]

**Doxology**

***"We Give You but Your Own" [HFJ#93]***

*Words: William W. How, 1864; alt.*

*Music: Cantica Laudis, Lowell Mason and G.J. Webb, 1850*

We give you but your own, whate'er the gift may be:  
All that we have is yours alone, we give it gratefully. Amen.

## **Thanksgiving Prayer**

### **The Act of Recognition of the United Church Men**

*(UCM's are called to stand in front of the chancel to acknowledge their valuable contribution in the church and her people. The minister will offer prayer of commitment for them. And the church is encouraged to give tokens of appreciation to the UCM's such as mugs, towel, pins, pens and etc.)*

### ***Prayer for the UCM***

### ***Singing of the UCM Hymn***

### ***The Act of Commitment***

#### **The Litany of Solidarity**

*Liturgist: O loving and merciful Creator, you have brought your people from every corner of the rich land of this earth with its beauty and wonders, help us celebrate the gifts of this land and our interconnectedness.*

**People: Help us restore the identity and dignity of our “lumad” sisters and brothers and other minority groups and the fullness of life.**

*Liturgist: Many have come to express their interest to conquer and possess the ancestral domains of your people - our “lumad” sisters and brothers and the and other cultural minority groups.*

**People: Help us restore the identity and dignity of our “lumad” sisters and brothers and other minority groups, and grant us the fullness of life.**

*Liturgist: There is conflict and violence everywhere O God, and your people, our “lumad” sisters and brothers and other minority groups struggled against violence, abuse and exploitation. They struggled for their right to self determination, respect for their cultural identity and ancestral domain.*

**People: Help us restore the identity and dignity of our “lumad” sisters and brothers and other minority groups, and grant us the fullness of life.**

*Liturgist: Your people have suffered so much, O God from displacement, threats and red-tagging for standing against forces that threatened their lives as a community; for protecting their cultural identity and their ancestral lands from the anti-people policies and development which endangered their home and livelihood.*

**People: Help us restore the identity and dignity of our “lumad” sisters and brothers and other minority groups, and grant us the fullness of life.**

*Liturgist: We pray, therefore, O God that you will move us to work in solidarity with our Lumad brothers and sisters who continue to stand and fight for their land and dignity. Empower us to amplify their hopes and aspirations for a life in its fullness. Amen*

***The Act of Sending and Blessing***

***Closing Hymn***      ***“Faith in the Service of the People” HFJ#306***

*Words: Luna L. Dingayan, 1999*

*Music: Perla S. Dingayan, 1999*

**Refrain:** Faith in the service of the people, faith in the service of the poor;

This is our response to the call of God,

Faith in the service of the poor.

Tribals of the mountains have the vision of land, that is rich and free,

They work and struggle, and protect the land,

From the greed of the pow'rs that be.(Ref.)

People of the church have the vision of Kingdom of God on earth,

A kingdom of justice and righteousness,

a kingdom of joy and love.(Ref.)

Let us come to celebrate together our joys in the service of God,

And giving thanks for all the work well done,

Pray for years to come.(Ref.)

**Benediction (Minister)**

*May the God of our ancestors who brought us liberation and restoration continue to strengthen us, guide us and grant us the grace to pursue our endeavors and aspirations for the attainment of the fullness of life. In the name of the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. Amen.*

**Response**

**“Trees of the Field” [HFJ 100]**

*Words: Steffi G. Rubin, 1975, based on Isaiah 55*

*Music: Stuart Devermann, 1975*

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;  
The mountains and the hills will break forth before you  
There'll be shouts of joy and all the trees of the field  
Will clap, will clap their hands.

And all the trees of the field will clap their hands;  
The trees of the field will clap their hands;  
The trees of the field will clap their hands  
While you go out with joy.

**Postlude**

**Recessional**

**“Kilos-Tawo”**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s9hvMADR8zQ&list=OLAK5uy\\_kY\\_n7E8vaLi-2y8CqkSmvlqttFtnAuNS4&index=13](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s9hvMADR8zQ&list=OLAK5uy_kY_n7E8vaLi-2y8CqkSmvlqttFtnAuNS4&index=13)

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*References:*

*Prayer of confession: Adopted from the Statements and Resolutions On The Mindanao Situation General Assembly 21-26 May 1978)*

*Hymnal of Faith Journey, UCCP, 2002*

*The liturgy was prepared by Pfr. Joshua Job Salva of CMAC-NWMT*

*Other Resource/s:*

PEACEMAKING: OUR MINISTRY Council of Bishops 21 August 1986

Then justice will dwell in the wilderness, and righteousness abide in the fruitful field. And the effect of righteousness will be peace ...

Isaiah 32:16-17

ALL-ENCOMPASSING MEANING

The Prince of Peace compels us to be peacemakers. We thus affirm and renew our commitment to peace through continued prayer and action. This commitment flows from our conviction that genuine peace can be attained

only when founded on justice.

The Scriptures expand the meaning of peace to cover wholeness, wellbeing, growth, harmony, security, equality — not just the absence of violence and war. Real peace happens when the roots of conflicts and violence are removed, when a just social structure is built and when human rights and dignity are held sacred.

When justice and righteousness prevail, peace (shalom) reigns supreme. As Isaiah put it: My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places (32:18).

#### THREATS TO PEACE

The ascendancy of the Aquino government brought hopes for peace and prosperity to this violence-torn land. But, while we have begun enjoying the democratic space so long denied us, the forces of evil around us continue to threaten peace.

Riding on the wave of our people's popular and legitimate quest for genuine peace, some elements in our society — who claim to be bearers of peace — are in fact agents of conflicts and violence. They have not stopped destabilizing the present government in the guise of national reconciliation. In the face of this ill-disguised attempt to subvert peace, we should remain vigilant.

#### MILITARIZATION IN THE COUNTRYSIDES

While the Aquino government and the National Democratic Front (NDF) expressed a desire for a ceasefire, some elements are opting for a military solution to insurgency. Intensified military operations designed to eliminate insurgents have wrought havoc on the lives of our brothers and sisters in the country sides, eliciting defensive responses from the insurgents. This unfortunate situation tends to derail the ceasefire negotiations, and can frustrate efforts to attain genuine peace.

#### REAL THREAT TO PEACE: STRUCTURES OF INJUSTICE

The real threat to peace is not the intransigence of hard-core rebels but unjust socio-economic political structures that breed insurgents. President Aquino herself, in her UP Commencement address, recognized that the roots of insurgency are in the economic condition of the people and the social structures that oppress them. What is considered insurgency is in many ways, a defensive action of people to protect their lives and rights.

#### GENUINE AND LASTING PEACE COMES WHEN PEOPLE'S NEEDS ARE SERVED

Genuine peace comes when justice is served. For as long as peasants remain landless, For as long as laborers do not receive just wages, For as long as we are politically and economically dominated by foreign nations, For as long as we channel more money to the military than to basic social services, For as long as the causes of social unrest remain untouched, There will be no peace.

#### OUR MINISTRY OF PEACEMAKING

The ministry of peacemaking is an imperative of the faith we profess. The Statement of Faith of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines calls us to participate in the establishment of a meaningful and just social order. Hence, the peace we seek should result from our active participation in building structures that promote human development and uphold human dignity.

Our affirmation of faith demands the end of our indifference and silence. It calls for an unwavering commitment to the all-transcending task of building peace founded on justice.

As a people of God, we should identify threats to peace and human dignity in our national life. We should

critically evaluate national and international policies and challenge them when they do not contribute to peacemaking.

As a Church, we should actively work for understanding, reconciliation and unity. We should join hands with peoples of the world in the common quest for peace based on justice. Above all, we should follow Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. Shalom!

## 3148 There's a Spirit of Love in This Place

1. There's a spir - it of love in this  
 (2. There's the) pres - ence of peace in this

place, there's a spir - it of love in this place. You can't  
 room, there's the pres - ence of peace in this room. In God's

see it, but it's there just as pre - cious as the air.  
 ten - der - ness is found peace that pass - es hu - man bounds.

There's a spir - it of love in this place.  
 There's the pres - ence of peace in this room.

O al - le - lu - ia, sing al - le - lu - ia! We bless your ho - ly  
 name. O al - le - lu - ia,

name, we bless your name. O al - le - lu - ia, sing al - le - lu - ia!  
 name. O al - le - lu - ia

(unison) 1 2  
 There's a spir - it of love in this place. 2. There's the place.

WORDS: Mark A. Miller  
 MUSIC: Mark A. Miller

MEDEMA  
 Irr.

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## My Eyes Have Seen the Glory

1 My eyes have seen the glo - ry of the com - ing of the Lamb,  
 2 God has been there in the watch - fires of a hun - dred cir - cling camps,  
 3 God has sound - ed forth the tram - pet that shall nev - er call re - treat,  
 4 In the beau - ty of the ill - ies Christ was born a - cross the sea.

who is tramp - ling out the vin - tage where the grapes of wrath are stored,  
 where they built a sa - cred al - tar in the eve - ning dews and damps,  
 and is sift - ing out the hearts of all be - fore the judg - ment seat,  
 with a glo - ry in whose bo - som that trans - fig - ures you and me.

And has loosed the fate - ful light - ning of a ter - ri - ble swift sword,  
 I can read the righ - teous sen - tence by the dim and star - ing lamp,  
 O be swift, my soul, to an - swer and be ju - bi - lant, my feet  
 As Christ died to make us ho - ly, let us die to make all free.

ETERNAL REIGN OF GOD

God's truth is march-ing on. *Refrain* Glo-ry, glo-ry, hal-le-lu-jah!  
God's day is march-ing on.  
Our God is march-ing on.  
While God is march-ing on.

Glo-ry, glo-ry, hal-le-lu-jah! Glo-ry, glo-ry, hal-le-

lu-jah! God's truth is march-ing on.

# Not My Brother, nor My Sister

*Leader*

1 Not my broth-er, nor my sis-ter, but it's me, O God,  
 2 Not the preach-er, nor the dea-con, but it's me, O God,  
 3 Not my fa-ther, nor my moth-er, but it's me, O God,  
 4 Not the strang-er, nor my neigh-bor, but it's me, O God,

*All*

stand-ing in the need of prayer; Not my broth-er, nor my sis-ter, but it's  
 stand-ing in the need of prayer; Not the preach-er, nor the dea-con, but it's  
 stand-ing in the need of prayer; Not my fa-ther, nor my moth-er, but it's  
 stand-ing in the need of prayer; Not the strang-er, nor my neigh-bor, but it's

*D7* *G* *All* *D* *G* *Refrain*

me, O God, stand-ing in the need of prayer. It's  
 me, O God, stand-ing in the need of prayer. It's  
 me, O God, stand-ing in the need of prayer. It's  
 me, O God, stand-ing in the need of prayer.

*D7* *G* *D7* *G*

me, it's me, it's me, O God, stand-ing in the need of prayer;

Words: African-American spiritual; alt.  
 Music: African-American spiritual

It's me, it's me, O God, stand-ing in the need of prayer.

Prayer Is the Soul's Sincere Desire

1 Prayer is the soul's sin - cere de - sire, ut - tered or un - ex - pressed  
 2 Prayer is the sim - plest form of speech that in - fant lips can try;  
 3 Prayer is the con - trite sin - ner's voice, turn - ing from thought - less ways,  
 4 No prayers do hu - mans make a - lone; the Ho - ly Spir - it pleads,  
 5 O Christ, by whom we come to God, the Life, the Truth, the Way,

The mo - tion of a hid - den fire that trem - bles in the breast.  
 Prayer, the sub - lim - est strains that reach the Maj - es - ty so nigh.  
 While an - gels in their songs re - joice and cry, "Be - hold, one prays!"  
 And Je - sus on the e - ter - nal throne for sin - ners in - ter - cedes.  
 The path of prayer you too have trod: Christ, teach us how to pray.

# Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

*Refrain*

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. hal - le - lu - jah.

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. hal - le - lu - jah.

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah. 1, 2 (Second time to verse) Last time

lu - jah, hal - le - lu, hal - le - lu - jah. jah.

lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

WORDS: Caribbean verses Hal H. Hopson (1933- ), para. Psalm 150  
 MUSIC: Caribbean melody; original music and setting by Hal H. Hopson (1933- )  
 Words and Music © 1999 Hope Publishing Company

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# Hallelujah

Musical score for 'Hallelujah' featuring three staves (treble, alto, and bass clefs). The melody is in a major key with a 4/4 time signature. Chords are indicated above the notes: C, F, G7, C, F. The lyrics are: Hallelu-jah, hal-le-lu-jah, hal-le-lu-jah, hal-le-lu-jah!

Rev. Nathan Peters, Dordrecht

# O Pamatia, Ginoo O Hear Our Prayer, Almighty God

Musical score for 'O Pamatia, Ginoo' featuring three staves (treble, alto, and bass clefs). The melody is in a major key with a 4/4 time signature. Chords are indicated above the notes: Gm, D7, Gm, D7, Gm, D7, Gm, D7, Gm. The lyrics are: O pa-ma - ti - a Gi - noo - o, A-mong pag - um - py  
O hear our pray't, Al-might-y God, in faith and trust we  
ka - ni - mo, Pu - go - da - wa - ton mo ka - ni  
make our pleas' O hear our pray't, O Lov-ing God.  
ngu na - ngu - ma - yo, O Je - sus, A - let - it - men  
At is your will, so let it be. SO LET IT BE.

and Music, Anonymous; Eng. Transl. [unclear]

# Bulahan ang Mohatag Kanimo

95

Cm Fm Cm

Bu - la - han ang mo - ha - tag ka - ni - mo,  
Blest are they, Lord, who of - fer to you

Fm Cm Fm

Ka - sing - ka - sing mo - ba - ti ga - yud,  
joy - ful hearts with sin - cer - i - ty;

G7 Fdim G7 Cm Fdim

Si Je - sus ang mo - ha - tag ka - ni - la sa gras - ya ug  
Je - sus Christ, grant to them grace a - bound - ing And love o - ver -

Cm Ebdim Ddim G7 Cm

gug - ma mo, O a - mong Dios,  
flow - ing from you Lord, our God.

Words: Sulpicio V. Pinero; Eng. Transl. Feliciano Ursos, 2002  
M sic: Song of the Traveler; Nicanor Abelardo

WORSHIP - OFFERTORY RESPONSE

*Cm Ddim Bb7 Eb*  
Bu - la - han ang mo - ha - tag Ka - ni - mo,  
Blessed are they Lord, who of - fer to you

*Cm Ebdim G*  
Ka - sing - ka - sing mo - ba - ti ga - yud,  
joy - ful hearts with sin - cer - i - ty;

*Cm C7 Fm Bdim*  
Si Je - sus ang mo - ha - tag ka - ni - la sa ma - nga  
Je - sus Christ, grant to them grace a - bound - ing And bless - ings

*Cm G7 Cm*  
pa - na la - ngin nga la - ngit - non.  
from heav - en they'll sure - ly re - ceive.

# Go Tell Everyone

Words and Music by  
Dan Scott, Tanya Goodman Sykes  
& Michael Sykes

Verses:

1. Long lay the world 'neath the dark - ness of night,  
2. Just as the proph - ets had prom - ised be - fore,  
3. We've been com - mis - sioned to car - ry the flame, And

Sor - row and mis - er - y was her plight, But the  
He came pro - claim - ing the year of the Lord,  
giv - en the pow - er to go in His Name,

lit - tle Ba - by born on Christ - mas day  
Deaf ears were o - pened, blind made to see,  
We have a mes - sage the hurt - ing must hear, There's

Came to chase shadows a - way.  
Lib - er - ty prom - ised to all who be - lieved.  
no time to waste, His com - ing is