

2022 ACWC DAY SERVICE LITURGY

***Raised with Christ***

Prepared by ACWC Bangladesh

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### **Raised with Christ**

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#### **Call to Worship**

Dear Sisters! We welcoming you all to the 2022 ACWC Day Celebration. Let us open our hearts and mind to worshipping God.

'Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.' Col 3:1

It is good to give thanks to the LORD, To sing praises to your name, O Most High; To declare your steadfast love in the morning, And your faithfulness by night; For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work; At the works of your hands let us sing for joy.

God of wisdom and care, we pray to you for all whom you call to share in the work of transforming the world so that girls and boys, women and men, may live, work and learn together with respect and dignity.

#### **Hymn...**

#### **Lighting the candle**

God of light and mercy, we light this candle as a sign of our willingness to be your light in the world. We remember before you our own communities; the places where we live and work; the people whose lives are connected to ours.

We bring before you all the people whose stories we have witnessed and all those whose stories have shaped our lives. In Jesus, you show us how to confront violence and how to transform it into peace and justice.

Fill us with your peace, that we may be peacemakers.

Fill us with your truth, that we may speak truth to power.

Fill us with your courage that we may bring hope to those who live in fear.

Fill us with joy, that we may be your beacons in the world.

We ask it in the name of Jesus, our Savior and friend. Amen.

#### **Confession**

Then I acknowledged my sin to you

and did not cover up my iniquity.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord."

And you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Psalm 32:5

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us. Jesus, Bearer of our sins, have mercy on us. Jesus, Redeemer of the world, grant us peace. For Lord, we know, that if you should mark our iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be revered.

**Responsive prayer:**

Come, Holy Spirit!

Blessed are you, Spirit of faith, for you reveal a God in whose image female and male are equally made and blessed and loved.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Blessed are you, Spirit of grace, for you fill the hearts of women and girls who dream of a life that is safe and free and joyful.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Blessed are you, Spirit of peace, for you inspire the women and girls who work for a world without violence.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Blessed are you, Spirit of courage, for you speak through the women and girls who question the patterns and challenge the causes of violence.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Blessed are you, Spirit of power, for you raise up women and girls to be wise leaders, passionate advocates, agents of change.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Blessed are you, Spirit of community, for you bring women and girls together to do together what cannot be done in isolation.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Blessed are you, Spirit of integrity, for you call women and men to be partners for change, working together with mutual trust and respect.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Breathe hope into places of conflict and build up the peacemakers, so that girls and women can live in safety.

Come, Holy Spirit!

Lift up the lowly, scatter the proud and fight for the justice-workers, so that girls and women can flourish and thrive.

Come, Holy Spirit, come to your beloved daughters today with freedom and with peace through Jesus Christ, who was born of the woman Mary, to bring abundant life to all. Amen.

### **Hymn...**

### **Scripture Reading:**

Col 3:1 Raised with Christ

Genesis 1:26-28 God made male and female in God's own image

Ruth 2:1-16 Boaz protects the vulnerable Ruth

Lamentations 3:49-51 Weeping over the fate of the young women

Romans 12:11-14 Wake from sleep, live honorably

### **Sermon**

### **Prayer for Peace**

### **SOVEREIGN GOD,**

It is your cause, and not our own, that engages our hearts, and we appeal to you with the greatest freedom to set up your kingdom in every place where Satan reigns; Glorify Yourself and we will rejoice, for to bring honor to your name is our greatest desire. We adore you as our God, and long that others should know it, feel it, and rejoice in it. O that all men might love and praise you, that you might have all glory from the world! Let sinners be brought to you for your dear name!

### **Hymn...**

### **Intercession**

God of wisdom and care, we pray to you for all whom you call to share in the work of transforming the world so that girls and boys, women and men, may live, work and learn together with respect and dignity.

**Reader:** For maternal and children's health workers and advocates for girls' education,

**All:** Living God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

**Reader:** For law-makers, policy-makers and lobby groups, shaping structures that protect and promote women's wellbeing,

**All:** Living God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

**Reader:** For marriage counsellors and relationship educators, developing healthy partnerships and good parenting skills,

**All:** Living God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

**Reader:** For religious leaders and communities of faith, shaping beliefs about the worth of women and girls,

**All:** Living God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

**Reader:** For women in business, industry, politics and education, leading by example and providing role models,

**All:** Living God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

**Reader:** For police and community workers sifting through the damage done by domestic violence.

**All:** Living God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

**Reader:** For counsellors and social workers offering a new start for survivors of domestic violence.

**All:** Living God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

**Reader:** For women's refuges and men's support groups creating safe spaces for problems to be named and tackled,

**All:** Living God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

**Reader:** For campaigners against human trafficking and the sex trade, pricking the conscience of complacent societies.

**All:** Living God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

**Reader:** For organizations, programmers and individuals offering support to survivors of rape and sexual abuse,

**All:** Living God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Loving Savior, touch the hearts of those who abuse others. Heal their thinking, so that they may turn to you and seek your ways. Help them to know that every human being is a treasure to you. Help them to know that you are a forgiving God and can lead them on a path to new life. In Jesus' name. Amen.

### **Prayer for ACWC Prayer Partner Countries**

#### **Hymn...( collect Offerings)**

#### **Benediction:**

May the Lord Jesus, bless us with compassion for the vulnerable, grace to stand with them and share His strength. May the Holy Spirit bless us with a prayerful heart, power to bring peace in transforming the world. May the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with you, and those for whom you have prayed always! Amen.