

Worship Resources for Churches around the World

Introduction [spoken in English, Français, Español]

One hundred years ago in this city,
men and women who were engaged in mission
came together from every part of the globe.
As they told their stories and prayed for each other,
they were surprised by the Spirit with a moment of inspiration,
when they glimpsed a vision of a united church
speaking with one voice the name of Christ,
and saw within grasp a world won for the gospel.

Now in a different age,
where violence and injustice still prevail,
where Christian witness is still fragmented,
and where secular forces mass against the gospel,
we gather to pray for a new moment of vision,
for new energy, fresh inspiration, and new resources
for witnessing to Christ today.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

(words in bold said by all together)

Come and see what we have seen:

**the lame dance for joy,
the blind see wonders,
the deaf hear music,
the voiceless given dignity and worth.**

Come and see what we have seen:

**the powerful are humbled,
the prisoners are freed,
women heard and honoured,
children grow in safety and love.**

Come and see what we have seen:

**the fearful find courage,
the broken-hearted find healing,
the addicted embrace freedom,
the indifferent find passion,
the superstitious find truth that is real.**

Come and see what we have seen:

**long-standing hatreds overcome,
sacrifices made across borders,
care and respect for the earth,
hope springing forth,
a new creation emerging,
God's praise rising from all nations.**

Come and see -

See what God has done.

Prayer of Confession

[A musical setting of Kyrie eleison, such as CH4 no. 776, should be used]

The leader says

Because God is merciful,
and because there is nothing we should hide from God,
let us express to our Maker regret which comes from our hearts.

Forgive us, gracious God, if - as your people –
we have tried to make heaven in the image of our church,
rather than making our churches resemble heaven.

And forgive us if we have looked with suspicion
on churches not of our tradition,
and especially if we have been unwilling to share the gifts
which your Holy Spirit brought to birth in other cultures.

Kyrie eleison

Forgive us, gracious God,
if we have called ourselves ' the Body of Christ'
but have refused to share the pain which others bear,
and have been jealous of the happiness others share.

Christe eleison

Forgive us, gracious God,
our abuse of power, personal and institutional,
if at any time we have approached with disrespect
the cultures and customs of those we are among,
and sought to impose our own interpretations
of the truth and love of Christ.

Kyrie eleison

Now, where penitence is real,
let your forgiveness, O Christ, be truly felt.
Say to us all, as you said to your first followers,
Your sins are forgiven.
Go in peace.
Come and follow me.

Prayer of Intercession

Leader Let us pray

We give thanks to God for the unique beauty
God has created in our motherlands:
their landscapes, their plant life,
their animal life and people.

**Encourage, O God, a deep love
for the lands from which we come.
Preserve their water, air and soil;
keep their economies clean,
their trade fair, their politics healthy.**

We give thanks to God
for the Churches to which we belong,
their centuries of worship and witness,
their service to those in need,
the potential in every member.

**Keep them nourished, good Lord,
through your word and sacraments;
show them what to leave behind
and what to anticipate in hope,
so that they may attract others to Christ.**

We give thanks to God
for calling us to be his ambassadors,
so that the Gospel may be shared
and shown throughout the world,
Let it take root in our time
as strongly as in the time of the apostles.

**Give us discerning minds, O Christ,
so that we know when to speak,
what to say,
and when to be silent and trust your Spirit.
Give us courage to challenge beliefs and customs
which make people slaves,
and to proclaim the love which liberates and reconciles.**

We thank you, eternal God,
for the World Missionary Conference of 1910,
and the good things which began there.
And we thank you for this moment, one hundred years later,
when, by your Spirit and with those around us,
we can prepare for the ever new future to which you call us.

**Keep our eyes, our ears,
our hearts and our minds open,
for we do not know when your Holy Spirit
will confront us with a new thing.
May we all find new friends here,
and catch visions of your Kingdom
we have not glimpsed before.
And may those who speak find words to fire the faith
and shape the discipleship of all who listen,
so that we may become better witnesses to Christ today.**

Peace *A traditional Celtic peace from Scotland*

For this, we stand and place our left hand on the shoulder of the person next to us.

Leader The peace of God,
the peace of God's people
the peace of Mary, the strong and loving one,
and of Christ, King of human hearts,
God's own peace ...

All **be upon each thing our eyes take in,
be upon each thing our ears take in,
be upon our bodies which come from earth,
be upon our souls which come from heaven,
evermore and evermore. Amen.**

Songs and hymns

Where the 1910 conference sung hymns exclusively from the West, most of the songs at E2010 are from the global church.

Those which also appear in CH4 are nos.

250 Sent by the Lord
175 Praise, I will praise
243 Touch the earth lightly
252 As a fire
762 Peruvian Gloria
776 Kyrie from Ukraine
359 He came down that we might have love
756 (My sisters) Bless the Lord
825 Amen
228 God who made the earth
150 Sing to God with gladness
222 Night has fallen
345 Halle, halle, hallelujah
496 Humbly in your sight
779 Listen now for the gospel