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Australian Church Women Inc.
ABN 68 539 329 715



Renewal through Trust:
Growing in God's Ways

Fellowship Day 2023

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN INC.

Australian Church Women was established in 1965 when women's inter-church councils across Australia came together to form Australian Church Women, fostering ecumenism and undertaking action on behalf of church women.

Australian Church Women Inc. forms a network of committed Christian women dedicated to encouraging fellowship and service across denominational, national and international boundaries and promoting peace, understanding and unity through faith and love in the one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

WINIFRED KIEK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Following a major restructure of Australian Church Women Inc., the former Winifred Kiek Scholarship is now the **Winifred Kiek Memorial Scholarship**. A new relationship has been established between Churches Together South Australia and the Winifred Kiek Memorial Scholarship Trust.

The offerings presented at Fellowship Day Services throughout Australia go towards this scholarship to honour Winifred Kiek, the first woman to be ordained in Australia. This scholarship is offered to Christian women of member countries of the Asian Church Women's Conference, multicultural Australia, and Pacific Island nations. The scholarship is used for supplementary training and further studies in theology or related fields.

The 2023 scholar is **Rev. Priti Priyadarshan Sandhagalla** from India, studying for a Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.).

TODAY'S ORDER OF SERVICE was prepared by the National Executive of Australian Church Women. 'Growing in God's Ways' is a sub-theme of the current national theme of 'Renewal through Trust'. Hymns have been chosen from Together in Song (TiS).

The online service will be available on 28 July at <https://www.acw.org.au/>

Please Note: The Order of Service is copyright and may not be rewritten or otherwise altered, except for additional prayers where relevant for the current situation, and the substitution of hymns that are considered more suitable and available locally.

WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND

CALL TO WORSHIP

PSALM 119:33–35, 40

PRAYERS

Leader: Teach me, O Lord, to follow your decrees;
Then I will keep them to the end.

All: **Give me understanding, and I will keep your law
and obey it with all my heart.**

Leader: Direct me in the path of your commands,
For there I find delight.

All: **How I long for your precepts.
Renew my life in your righteousness.**

HYMN: **Now thank we all our God TiS 106a**

BIBLE READINGS: (NIV)

Psalm 25:4–5 and 8–10

2 Thessalonians 2:13–17

John 14:5–6, 15–21

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Leader: Unchanging God, we thank you for sending Jesus to our world, to show us Your ways of love, peace, justice and understanding.

Help us to follow in your ways.

God of grace, we live in a world where so many people are suffering: victims of natural disasters, of poverty and disease, of greed and love of power, of war and persecution. May these people receive the help they need.

Give wisdom and compassion to those enabling and assisting recovery efforts.

Help us to play our part in love, through your power.

All: God of love, hear our prayer.

HYMN: May the mind of Christ my Saviour TiS 609

SPEAKER

GROWING IN GOD'S WAYS

**Brief report on 2023 Winifred Kiek Scholar
Rev. Priti Priyadarshan Sandhagalla of India**

HYMN: Thou art the Way TiS 226

During the singing of this hymn, your offering will be received for the Winifred Kiek Memorial Scholarship Trust Fund. If you are unable to forward your offering to a local ACW Unit, please email the ACW National Secretary Margaret Ker margaretker48@gmail.com

This hymn was part of the Fellowship Day Service in 1965. The first recipient of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship, Connie Tan Kwia Hwa of Indonesia, was in Australia for part of her scholarship studies. Her presence in Australia influenced the theme of the 1965 Fellowship Day Service: 'Bridges to Asia'. With South East Asia in mind, it was prepared by Mrs Mabel Wylie, then President of ACW.

DEDICATION AND PRAYER FOR THE SCHOLARS AND TRUST

Leader: God our Father, we thank you for these gifts for the Winifred Kiek Memorial Scholarship Trust. We ask that you bless the members of the Trust with wisdom as they consider applications that come from women wishing to further their Biblical studies and training for ministry.

We thank you for all scholars, from Connie Tan Kiwia Hwa to Rev. Priti Priyadarshan Sandhagalla. Thank you for all they have contributed in ministry in their areas of influence.

We pray especially at this time for our 2023 scholar, Priti. Encourage and use her in her faith and ministry. We ask this in the name of Jesus.

Amen

Let us join together in the Lord's Prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours
now and forever.
Amen**

FOR REFLECTION:

A meditation from the 1962 Fellowship Day Service was prepared by the Women's Inter-Church Council of Victoria.

A Meditation:

“Where there is no vision, the people break loose.”

Proverbs 29:18

There is a hidden, divine spirit which, when the time is ripe, makes the truth manifest.

The man or woman who leaves out of life all expectation of moments of insight is not only foolish but ill equipped for life's emergencies.

Let us so live that when God has something to say to us, He can say it suddenly. We shall not only hear, but understand what truth He seeks to make clear.

BENEDICTION:

Leader: Now may the hope of a better world, a worthier life, a holier morrow and a sweeter thanksgiving, inspire us all with patient continuance in well doing; and may grace, mercy and peace from Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, remain with us now and always.

All: Amen

This benediction was prayed by the Reverend Winifred Kiek at her ordination service on 13 June 1927 and used at her last act of public ministry on 9 March 1975. It is the benediction that she loved most.

HYMN: You Servants of God TiS 215

Personal Notes:

