O God our heavenly Father, who didst manifest Thy love by sending Thine onlybegotten Son into the world that all might live through Him; pour Thy Spirit upon Thy Church, that it may fulfil His command to preach the gospel to every creature; send forth, we beseech Thee, labourers into Thy harvest; defend them in all dangers and temptations; give them grace to bear faithful witness unto Thee; endue them with zeal and love, that they may turn many to righteousness; through the same Thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, who, by the agency of those who have gone from our own land, hast raised up the Church in the islands of the Pacific, grant Thy blessings to all Christian people in Tonga, Fiji, Samoa, the Solomon Islands and in the Territory of Papua-New Guinea. Guide them through these days of rapid change and bewildering development. Raise up for them wise leaders who shall lead them in Church and State.

We remember before Thee the nations of Africa and Asia as they struggle to achieve justice, peace and prosperity in their national life. Especially we pray for the Christian Churches of India, Malaya and Indonesia that both by their teaching and life they may show forth the truth and love of Christ.

We remember with shame the Aborigines of our own country, yet we give thanks for signs that our consciences have been touched by their plight. We bless Thee for the work our own Church has carried on amongst them at Mogumber and in North Australia. Hasten the day when the Light of Christ shall banish all darkness from amongst these people.

O Thou, who art the light of the world, the desire of all nations, and the shepherd of our souls; let Thy light shine in the darkness, that all the ends of the earth may see the salvation of our God. By the lifting up of Thy cross gather the peoples to Thine obedience; let Thy sheep hear Thy voice, and be brought home to Thy fold; so that there may be one flock, one shepherd, one holy kingdom of righteousness and peace, one God and Father of all, above all, and in all, and through all. Amen.

OFFERING

**HYMN 246** 

BENEDICTION

EPWORTH PRESS, 31 BOTANY STREET, REDFERN, N.S.W.

#### METHODIST CHURCH OF AUSTRALASIA



# DAY OF PRAYER for OVERSEAS MISSIONS

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT 25th NOVEMBER, 1962 At the request of the Board of Missions of the General Conference, as we approach the season of Advent, this Sunday is being observed as a Day of Prayer for Overseas Missions. Therefore in fellowship with the Church in every part of this Commonwealth and with our brethren in the younger Churches overseas we unite in the worship of Almighty God.

### ORDER OF WORSHIP

#### **INTROIT** (as is customary)

Minister (all standing): Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

#### Let us pray.

O God, who hast made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on the face of the earth and didst send Thy blessed Son Jesus Christ to preach peace to them that are afar off and to them that are nigh; grant that all the peoples of the world may feel after Thee and find Thee; and hasten, O Lord, the fulfilment of Thy promise to pour out Thy Spirit upon all flesh; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **HYMN 115**

Minister: Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

*Together:* Almighty God our Heavenly Father who didst cause light to shine out of darkness in the advent of our Lord Jesus Christ, to take away the sins of the world, we humbly confess our transgressions and implore Thy forgiveness. So often we have been content to keep to ourselves the good news of Thy love. Forgive our selfishness, our slackness, our wilful disobedience. Pour upon us the cleansing of Thy grace and renew us by Thy Holy Spirit that we may be counted worthy to serve Thee: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Minister: The Lord is gracious and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

#### **RESPONSIVE READING**

Minister: God be merciful unto us and bless us:

*People:* And show us the light of His countenance, and be merciful unto us.

Minister: That Thy way may be known upon earth:

People: Thy saving health among all nations.

Minister: Let the people praise Thee, O God.

People: Yea, let all the people praise Thee.

Minister: O let the nations rejoice and be glad:

*People:* For Thou shalt judge the folk righteously, and govern the nations upon earth.

Minister: Then shall the earth bring forth her increase.

People: And God, even our own God, shall give us His blessing. Minister: God shall bless us.

People: And all the ends of the world shall fear Him.

#### **GLORIA**

LESSON: Isaiah 35; St. John 4:27-38

#### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (all standing)

Minister: Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is the one true Church, apostolic and universal, whose holy faith let us now reverently and sincerely declare.

#### THE APOSTLES' CREED

#### Together:

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

#### **HYMN 815**

#### **CHILDREN'S ADDRESS**

(Where it is customary for the offering to be taken before the children leave the service, it may be taken here.)

#### **HYMN 265**

(May be sung to Warwick No. 387 or other C.M. tune.)

#### SERMON

ANTHEM

#### PRAYER

### (Here the minister may offer extempore prayer followed by the Lord's Prayer, or the following prayers may be used.)

Almighty God our heavenly Father, who through Thy Son Jesus Christ hast given commandment unto Thy people to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature; grant us a ready will to obey Thy word; and as we have entered into the labours of other men, help us to serve Thee, that others may enter into our labours, and that we with them, and they with us, may attain unto everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ Thy Son our Lord. Amen.