

We dedicate these buildings to those tasks and aims in which the Christian serves his place and time: to the cause of missions, of Christian citizenship, and the broad field of social relations.

The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

The Minister and the people:

We dedicate ourselves anew to that service of our fellow men wherein can best be performed our true service of God, in obedience to the spirit of the Master when he said: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and thy neighbour as thyself.

NATIONAL ANTHEM—

ODE OF REMEMBRANCE—

COL. J. W. SWATTON, E.D., M.I.D., President, Bendigo R.S.S.A.I.L.A.

UNVEILING OF MEMORIAL PLAQUE—

"To the glory of God, and in memory of those who served in World Wars I. and II.

In thanksgiving for Peace,

In gratitude for the service of men and women in years of war,

In remembrance of all who gave their lives."

REV. F. V. WINN, B.A., Ex. Chaplain 2/2 Btn. 6 Div. and 67Btn. B.C.O.F. Japan.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, whose eyes are ever toward the righteous, and whose ears are ever open unto their cry; graciously accept, we pray thee these buildings which we now dedicate to thee, to thy service, and to thy glory and in honoured memory of those who served in the two World Wars, that in them love and wisdom may unite to bring joy and strength to those who gather here; and we beseech thee, receive us thy servants who here dedicate ourselves anew to thee and to those offices of fellowship and good will in which thou art well pleased. Grant that those who come here may be cheered and quickened in mind and body, and that they may be stirred in spirit to serve thee wisely and steadfastly; and the praise shall be thine forever; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessed Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience, and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

O God, by whom the meek are guided in judgement, and light riseth up in darkness for the godly; grant us, in all doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what thou wouldst have us to do, that the spirit of wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in thy light we may see light, and in thy straight path may not stumble; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GLORIA (The congregation still standing.)

BENEDICTION

THREE-FOLD AMEN.

(The Congregation shall please remain standing as the Ministers Official Guests and Choir retire.)



Methodist Church of Australasia

Victoria and Tasmanian Conference



GOLDEN SQUARE CIRCUIT



Opening and Dedication

of the

EXTENSIONS AND RENOVATIONS TO THE SUNDAY

SCHOOL BUILDINGS AT GOLDEN SQUARE,

VICTORIA

on

20th September, 1959, at 3 p.m.

by

The Minister of the Church

THE REV. F. V. WINN, B.A.

The Order of Service

(The Congregation shall please rise as the Officiating Ministers enter, and remain standing until the end of the first Hymn.)

THE CALL TO WORSHIP—

Minister: Serve the Lord with gladness.

People: Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise.

Minister: O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.

People: He is our God; and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

Minister: Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, whose loving kindness never faileth, who rulest both in heaven and in earth, keeping mercy for Thy people who walk before the presence of Thy glory; graciously vouchsafe Thy presence as we dedicate these buildings to Thy service; mercifully illumine and brighten them with Thine own glory, and pour down Thy blessing upon them. Amen.

HYMN—M.H.B. No. 139

Father, in whom we live,
In whom we are, and move,
The glory, power, and praise receive
Of Thy creating love.
Let all the angel throng
Give thanks to God on high;
While earth repeats the joyful song,
And echoes to the sky.

Eternal, Triune Lord!
Let all the hosts above,
Let all the sons of men, record
And dwell upon Thy love.
When heaven and earth are fled
Before Thy glorious face,
Sing all the saints Thy love hath made
Thine everlasting praise. Amen.

PRAYER—

Let us pray.

O Lord our God, be pleased to accept our thanksgiving for Thy great love and goodness. Thou art the Father of all mercy, and God of all comfort, full of compassion, forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin. We thank Thee that Thou hast founded Thy Church upon the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone. We thank Thee that Thou hast committed to Thy Church the ministry of reconciliation. Continue, we pray Thee, Thy loving kindness unto us, that we may rejoice and be glad in Thee all our days. Guide us by Thy counsel, and afterwards receive us to Thy glory; where, with all the blessed host of heaven, we may worship and perfectly praise Thee, who art our creator and redeemer, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer.

ANTHEM—

The Choir, under the direction of Mr. Cyril Warne — Mr. Hedley Jones, Organist.

GREETINGS from Civic, and Parliamentary Representatives

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

OFFERING AND DEDICATION.

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, giver of all good things, who hast taught us that it is more blessed to give than to receive; we dedicate these our offerings to the service of Thy Church, humbly beseeching Thee that all our gifts and energies may be consecrated to the extension of Thy Kingdom on earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON (Isaiah, Ch. 35)

REV. G. V. WARNE,
A former member and S.S. Teacher.

HYMN—M.H.B. No. 837.

Children of Jerusalem
Sang the praise of Jesu's name:
Children, too, of modern days,
Join to sing the Saviour's praise.

Chorus—

Hark! Hark! Hark! While infant voices sing
Loud hosannas to our King.

Parents, teachers, old and young,
All unite to swell the song;
Higher and yet higher rise,
Till hosannas reach the skies.
Chorus—

We are taught to love the Lord,
We are taught to read His Word,
We are taught the way to heaven:
Praise for all to God be given.
Chorus—

THE ADDRESS.

REV. T. M. BYARD, B.A., Dip. Ed.,
Chairman, Central District.

HYMN—M.H.B. No. 983

Be with us, gracious Lord, to-day;
This house we dedicate to Thee:
O hear Thy servants as they pray,
And let Thine ear attentive be!
Within these walls let holy peace,
Let love and truth be always found;
May burdened hearts find sweet release,
And souls with richest grace be crowned.

Here, when the gospel sound is heard,
And here proclaimed the saving name,
May hearts be quickened, moved, and stirred,
And souls be kindled into flame.
Make this, O Lord, Thine own abode;
Thy presence in these courts be given;
Be this, indeed, the house of God,
And this in truth the gate of heaven.

Amen.

Presentation of Keys by Architect and Builder

ANTHEM—

ACT OF DEDICATION.

(The people, being seated, shall join in the responses.)

Dearly beloved, it is right and proper that buildings erected for such service in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ should be formally and devoutly set apart for their special uses. For such a dedication we are now assembled. And, as the dedication of this building is vain without the solemn consecration of those whose gifts and labours it represents, let us now give ourselves anew to the service of God: our souls, that they may be renewed after the image of Christ; our bodies, that they may be fit temples for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit; and our labours and business, that they may be according to God's holy will, and that their fruit may tend to the glory of his name and the advancement of his Kingdom.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we dedicate these buildings to the worship of God.

God is a spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

We dedicate these buildings to the purpose of Christian education: to the work of the Sunday School, to the study of the Scriptures, and to the development of Christian character.

**Whatever things were written aforetime were written for our learning
Blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.**

We dedicate these buildings to the broadening of mental horizons and the deepening of knowledge, that young and old may be awakened and informed.

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

We dedicate these buildings to Christian fellowship and to recreation of mind and body.

Thou wilt show me the path of life; in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.