

It is in giving that we receive; and
It is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
- *Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi*

GREETING EACH OTHER WITH THE PEACE OF GOD

(everyone stands when able and greets each other with the peace of God)

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Voice 1: *Being part of the Global Fellowship connected by the Holy Spirit through FLC, let us pray for our sisters in Asia*

for Asian women doing contextual theologizing and publishing their writings;
for indigenous women in the Philippines raising their voices for peace;
for volunteer activities supporting disabled children in Japan;
for ecumenical work of caring for the poor and those with AIDS;
for the YMCA in Nepal and their work to empower women and equip them as leaders in church and society.

All: Hear our prayer, O God.

Silence

Voice 2: *Let us pray for our sisters in Africa*

for the young girls and girl-mothers in the African countries of Sierra Leone, Togo, Djibouti, Kenya, Tanzania and Zimbabwe - that through their schooling and income-generating projects they may overcome poverty, be self-reliant, participate in community development and have a better life as God wants for them.

All: Hear our prayer, O God.

Silence

Voice 3: *Let us pray for our sisters in the Caribbean*

for the Caribbean women's ecumenical network and their efforts for the empowerment and liberation of Caribbean women from all dehumanizing forces.

All: Hear our prayer, O God.

Silence

Voice 4: *Let us pray for our sisters in Latin America*

for the pastoral accompaniment and training of women in social vulnerability in Managua;
for the indigenous/Mayan women of Guatemala and the ministry with them.

All: Hear our prayer, O God.

Silence

Voice 5: *Let us pray for our sisters in the Middle East*

for the Women's Union of the Evangelical Church of Egypt and their work in the urban slums;
for the women's work in Jordan to raise awareness of youth on gender issues, the environment and leadership

All: Hear our prayer, O God.

Silence

Voice 6: *Let us pray for our sisters in the Pacific*

for the Samoa Methodist Women and their work to overcome violence against women and children;
for bridging communication in the Pacific Islands through the *FLC Pacific Committee*

All: Hear our prayer, O God.

Silence

Voice 7: *Let us pray for our sisters in North America*

for the leaders and members of the Church Women United-USA and the Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada who have been faithfully reaching out to others in prayer and giving as God's generous love flows through their minds and hearts.

All: Hear our prayer, O God.

Silence

Voice 8: *Let us pray for our sisters in Europe*

for our sisters' work on social justice and peace looking for equal opportunities as women from Eastern and South Eastern Europe migrate to other European countries; for inter-faith learning in Europe promoting social peace and mutual respect among Christian and Muslim women.

All: Hear our prayer, O God.

Silence

Voice 9: *Let us pray for the global ecumenical movement*

Let us pray for World Council of Churches, may their staff be blessed in working with the ICFLC to spread the good news of God's love and grace; for strengthening the fellowship of Christian women worldwide through FLC and World Day of Prayer. For what our lips have not spoken, may the Holy Spirit intercede for justice, peace and reconciliation in our world. In Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

OFFERING OF THE LEAST COINS

Leader: As a symbol of our sincerity, our love for church women's work all over the world, and for the least of our women and children in the name of God who first loved us, let us offer our least coins.

Offering (*least coins are collected or placed in a central basket*)

Prayer of FLC: O Loving Creator, we present ourselves in your divine presence to thank you for all the bountiful gifts of life.

We are especially grateful for the Fellowship of the Least Coin which binds us together in love and forgiveness around the globe.

Free us from all doubts and prejudices, we pray. Inspire us to live in solidarity with humankind that we may know the joy of giving and receiving.

Dear God, accept the least coin "token of love". Make us mindful of the miracles of these coins. Let us honour your creation with love, as shown through the life, death and resurrection of your son, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

CLOSING SONG: "We Are One in the Bond of Love"

We are one in the bond of love (2x)
We have joined our spirit with the Spirit of God
We are one in the bond of love.

Let us praise Jesus Christ the Son
Praise him for the work begun
Let us join our hands that the world will know
We are one in the bond of love.

CLOSING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

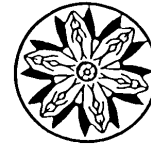
God's peace be in your life (God's peace be in your life)
God's peace be in your home (God's peace be in your home)
God's peace be in your church (God's peace be in your church)
God's peace be in your work (God's peace be in your work)
God's peace be in your community (God's peace be in your community)
God's peace be in your world (God's peace be in your world).



For more information, contact:
WOMEN'S INTER-CHURCH COUNCIL OF CANADA
47 Queen's Park Crescent East, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2C3
Ph: (416) 929-5184; Fax: (416) 929-4064
Email: wicc@wicc.org; Web: www.wicc.org



Fellowship of the Least Coin



INGATHERING SERVICE 2009

"Keeping the FLC vision aflame in our hearts"

This service is prepared by the International Committee of the Fellowship of the Least Coin.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives." (*John 14:27*)

All: O God, we are gathered here in the name of your Son, our Lord Jesus who gave peace to this world.

Leader: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God." (*Matthew 5:9*)

All: As your children, we commit our lives to you as channels of your peace and reconciliation between human beings and God and with one another. Holy Spirit, fill us with your power and bind us in unity and love.

OPENING HYMN

PRAYER (together)

Lord make us an instrument of your peace
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is discord, union;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
And where there is sadness, joy.
Loving God, grant that we may not so much seek
To be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved as to love.
For it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;