

Prepared by the WDP Committee of Taiwan | Published by World Day of Prayer USA

World Day of Prayer • March 3, 2023 Children's Program

Some notes for program preparation:

- Help the children practice all the songs that will be sung during the worship service ahead of time.
- Post a world map on the wall and mark the location of Taiwan.
- Make copies of the head wreath patterns in advance. The patterns can be found in Appendix 1. Have the supplies ready, including colored pencils, scissors, glue/tape. Explain the symbolic meaning of the wreath while they are making their own.
- Choose some of the games from Appendix 2 and intersperse them throughout the worship service. The games serve as ice breakers or ways to help the children learn more about Taiwan.
- Have simple prizes prepared for the winners of the ice breakers.

Call to Worship

Leader: Wonderful Counselor, Response: Wonderful Counselor.

Leader: Mighty God, Response: Mighty God. Leader: Everlasting Father, Response: Everlasting Father. Leader: Prince of Peace, Response: Prince of Peace. Sing and jump in pairs while holding each other's hands. Change partners every 4 bars until the music ends. Remain standing and sing the following praise song.

Note: The song "Bang, Bang, Bang" refers to people

worshipping God with joy.

Instead of jumping, the children can make other movements, such as high-fives, stomping, shaking hands, or giving shoulder massages to each other.

Bang Bang Bang

(Gathering song)



Repeat as needed until everyone has gathered.

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Words and music by MEBIG.
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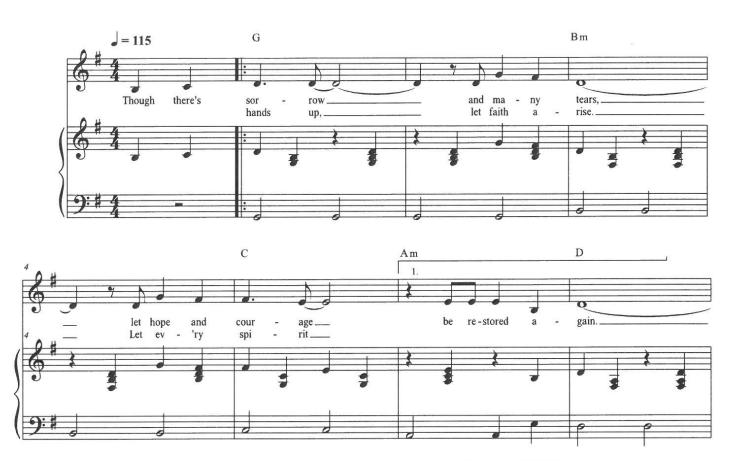
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for protecting us and taking care of us, so we can live peacefully and happily. Thank you for giving us strength, so that we are not afraid when we face difficulties. Thank you, Jesus, for Taiwan. Although she is small, she is very beautiful. She is covered with beautiful mountains, clean rivers, and rich farm products. Thank you for the people on this island, for their kindness and warm hospitality that make the people in other parts of the world want to know more about Taiwan.

Dear God, please watch over Taiwan and lead its people to live and share with love and joy. Help us continue to do our best to help the world see our country. Guide us to live out God's will and to share with others your abundant grace. We believe that you will lead us to do what you want with confidence and courage as long as we come to you and pray earnestly. We pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

Love Overflows

Sandy Yu arr. V. Crescenz



Words and music by Sandy Yu 2003 Stream of Praise Music CCLI Song #3978045.

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Scripture Reading

Ephesians 1:15-19

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power.

Message

Today, we are going to read a letter Paul wrote to his friends.

Paul knows that his friends know Jesus, so he writes to them expressing how happy he is to hear that they all know Jesus. He thanks God for his friends, for their coming to know Jesus, and he tells them that he will continue to pray for them. Paul understands that to believe in Jesus takes courage and hard work. There are different beliefs around them, and not everyone knows Jesus. Paul encourages those who have just met Jesus not to be afraid of facing difficulties or hardship, for God will protect and grant them wisdom. The Holy Spirit will be with them and help them know more about Jesus and experience the Lord's mighty power, so that they will truly believe that coming to know him means a great hope and gift.

There was once a child named Xiao-Hua. She has known Jesus since she was little, but her classmates don't. Every noon before she eats lunch, she closes her eyes and prays to the Lord, "Thank you Jesus for giving me delicious food and allowing me to grow up healthy." However, after she opens her eyes, she often finds some of her food missing. Xiao-Hua knows that her classmates are teasing her, so she decides to often bring candies and cookies to share with her classmates and let them get to know Jesus. Then everyone can pray to God and thank Jesus together.

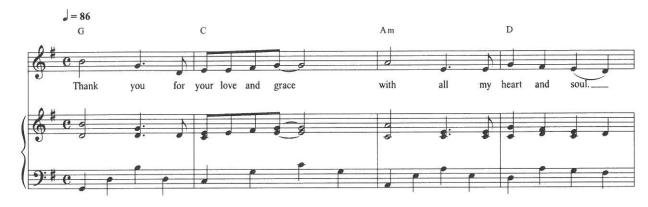
When others do not know the God we believe in, we may encounter obstacles that prevent us from going to church, such as pressure caused by school, poverty, domestic violence, or different religions.

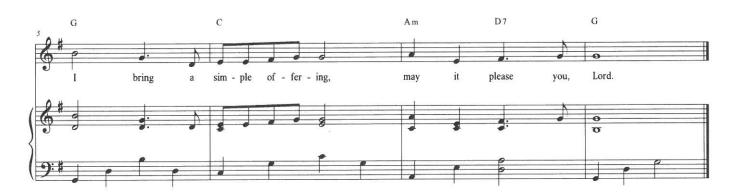
Dear friends, have you ever had a special experience meeting God? How did you respond?

Offering to You

Ephesians 1: 15-16

Music by Lai, Yin-ting Arr. V. Crescenz





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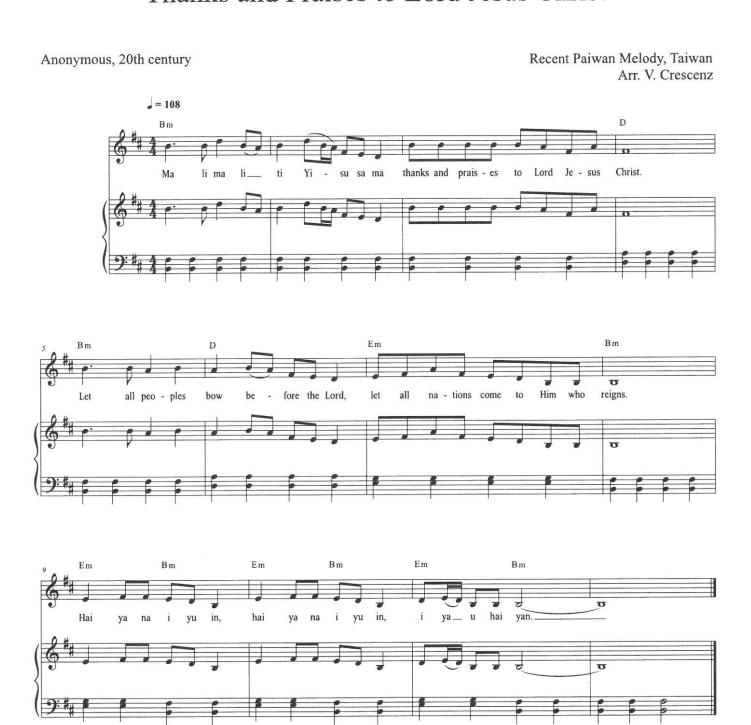
Offering money and offering an action: a head wreath (See Appendix 1)

Indigenous people in Taiwan are very particular about headwear. It not only represents social status but contains rich cultural connotations. A head wreath is made by twining flowers and leaves into a circle. It expresses the cultural heritage of unity. The meaning of a wreath varies, depending on different occasions. Sometimes it means welcoming the clansmen who return home from hunting in faraway fields and appreciating their hard work. It can also mean a sign of respect one has towards the recipient of the wreath.

In making a head wreath, let us think about Taiwan, a country that appears so small compared to others, and yet is full of God's abundant mercy and justice. Just like the ways of making head wreaths, we are all different. However, God connects us with love and makes us a beautiful wreath to witness His presence.

Let us respond to our faith and hope in God by making a unique head wreath of our own. With a welcoming heart, we would like to invite everyone to learn about Taiwan and its diverse cultures given. When we put on the wreath, we become part of Taiwan and dedicate ourselves to glorifying our Lord with one heart.

Thanks and Praises to Lord Jesus Christ

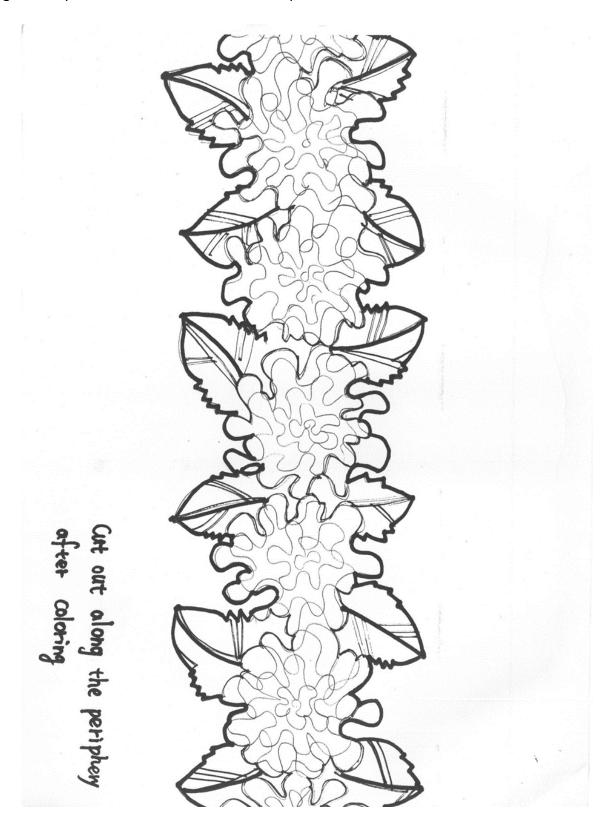


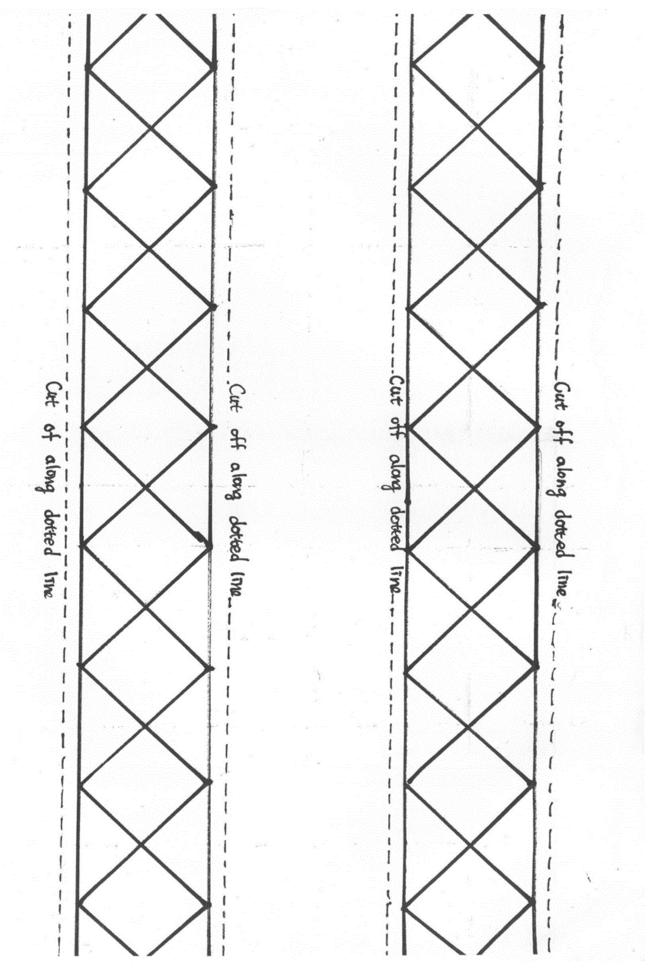
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Have teachers put head wreath on every student's head, bless them and tell them they are unique to God. Teachers and students hold hands forming a circle. The leader leads everyone in dance and song. Sing the song several times before closing the service with a prayer.

Appendix 1 — Making a Head Wreath

- Prepare colored pencils, scissors, and glue/tape.
- Take Pattern A (the flower pattern) or Pattern B (the diamond pattern) and color it according to personal preference.
- After the coloring is completed, cut the pattern out.
- Use glue or tape to connect the two ends of the pattern to form a wreath.





Appendix 2 — Creative Games

Ice Breaker

The following two actions represent two kinds of common fruits in Taiwan, pineapples and bananas.

Have the students to practice the actions of pineapples and bananas before the game begins. Choose a leader. When the game starts, all stand up and say the magic term "pa-pa-ya, pa-pa-ya, pa-pa-ya wooboom." Then each participant poses one of the actions at will. Those who pose the same action as the leader are out and should sit down. Those who pose the other action then continue the game.

The leader may stop the game at any time. Those who are still standing when the game is over are the winners and will be given a prize.





Move Forward with Solidarity and Unity

Just as the various ethnic groups have lived together in Taiwan for more than 400 years, we should remain in solidarity and never give up despite all the difficulties and adverse situations.

The rule for the game (about 5-10 minutes)



Step 1. Divide the participants into small groups of three or more. All the members of each group stand back-to-back and are bound together with a roll of toilet paper (or some kind of strips that can be broken easily).

Step 2. All the groups move toward the post from the starting line. After reaching the post, go around it and come back to the starting point. If the toilet paper is broken on the way, the group has to be bound together again by the teacher on the spot and then move on. The group that finishes the game first is the winner.

Taiwan GO GO GO

The aim of this game is to learn about the characteristics of Taiwan. There are three different themes for this game: special products, unique species, and indigenous tribes. The leader may choose one of them to play the game, based on the students' age.

This game is a variation of the classical hand game "Rock, Paper, Scissors". It is usually played between two people, in which each player simultaneously forms one of three shapes with an outstretched hand. These shapes are rock (a closed fist), paper (a flat hand), and scissors (a fist with the index finger and middle finger extended, forming a V). Rock crushes scissors, scissors cut paper, paper cover rocks. Each participant needs to look for someone who poses the same action as he/she does as his/her partner in playing the game "Rock, Paper, Scissors".

Before the game starts, make sure to practice all the actions for the chosen theme until the students can remember them. Begin the game by posing the action marked START. The winner of each round performing the next action and looks for someone perfoming the same action to play the game with. The loser of each round must perform the action marked START and start the game over. The game is finished when someone reaches the last action marked WINNER.

Theme 1: Special products

Different Pose (from left to right)

- Rice Noodles
- Bubble Milk Tea
- Bluefin tuna
- Longan
- Guava
- Oolong Tea



Theme 2: Unique Taiwanese Species

Different Pose (from left to right)

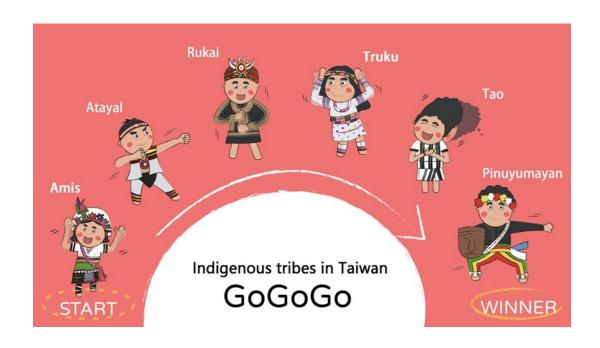
- Serow
- Sika Deer
- Formosan Black Bear
- Swinhoe's Pheasant
- Macaque
- Leopard Cat



Theme 3: Indigenous Tribes in Taiwan

Different Pose (from left to right)

- Amis
- Atayal
- Rukai
- Truku
- Tao
- Pinuyumayan



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