



# Asia Sunday 2010

**Called to Prophecy, Reconcile and Heal**



**Christian Conference of Asia**

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# Table of Contents

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## ● Invitation to Celebrate

---

Dr. Prawate Khid-Arn

## ● Introduction to the Theme of Asia Sunday 2010

---

Rev. Dr. Sungkook Park

## ● Sermon & Bible Studies

---

## ● Worship in Unity

---

Suggested Liturgy for Asia Sunday 2010

## ● General Assembly Songs and Hymns

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# Invitation to Celebrate

## Asia Sunday 2010

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### **Welcome to Asia Sunday 2010!**

Every year, a Sunday is designated where churches and ecumenical organizations are invited to be more aware of the great diversity of local situations and challenges, and to realize that they are co-workers in God's mission. That day marks the commemoration of the birth of the Christian Conference of Asia, the then East Asia Christian Conference, on 24<sup>th</sup> May 1959. In 1974, the **Asia Sunday** was created to celebrate this special event.

The **Asia Sunday** is a yearly call to all churches in Asia where pulpits are exchanged and worship services are arranged ahead of time. The celebration usually falls on the Sunday before Pentecost. In 2010 we celebrate Asia Sunday on the 16<sup>th</sup> of May. This is a time for member churches to pray for each other; to realize that they are neighbors; and to strive for the unity of the Church.

The theme for 2010 focuses on "Called to Prophecy, Reconcile and Heal." It is the same theme of the 13<sup>th</sup> CCA General Assembly which will be held this year. We realize that it is an appropriate theme and has to be reflected upon and wrestled with in light of complex and conflicting Asian realities. God's call to people to prophesy, reconcile and to be a healing community is a tremendous challenge and a call to a costly discipleship. The theme is a reminder as well as a call to the churches in Asia to respond to God's call and engage in prophetic, reconciling and healing ministries without counting the cost.

CCA therefore encourage member churches, councils, ecumenical organizations and friends to observe this day and pray especially for the people, to share their burden and to join them in their call to prophesy, reconcile and heal.

We humbly request you to set aside one Sunday in your church calendar to express solidarity with the people and churches in Asia. If the 16<sup>th</sup> of May 2010 is not possible for your church, please consider choosing another Sunday on your calendar.

We encourage and request CCA member churches and national councils to translate this material into your local languages or dialects and to disseminate this widely to your local churches. After your celebration, please share with us a short summary and some photos so we can also share these with the rest of the CCA constituencies.

We have prepared the liturgical resources, reflections, stories and prayers. It is available at the CCA website ([www.cca.org.hk](http://www.cca.org.hk)) in PDF format. It can be downloaded and adapted according to different contexts and needs of the churches.

CCA prays and looks forward to a fruitful and meaningful Asia Sunday celebration with you all.

Dr. Prawate Khid-arn  
General Secretary

# Introduction to the Theme of Asia Sunday 2010

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This year's Asia Sunday is planned to celebrate according to the 13<sup>th</sup> General Assembly theme of Christian Conference of Asia, "CALLED TO PROPHECY, RECONCILE AND HEAL".

Asia Sunday is a call to celebration of the years of life together that CCA member churches and councils have committed themselves to. While celebrating the founding of CCA, which dates back to May 1959 - to that time as EACC (East Asia Christian Conference) and later in June 1973 renamed to CCA (Christian Conference of Asia) -, Asia Sunday is also a call for honest reflection on our committed life towards the call to live and work as instruments of God in God's Mission (*Missio Dei*).

The theme, "Called to Prophecy, Reconcile and Heal" reflects the constant need to recognize and celebrate our human nature as being created in the Image of God (*Imago Dei*). That is, to recall and re-emphasize the way of living together as we are being created to. It also reflects the reality of our brokenness. We are not living the conditions, we ought to live. The theme itself is calling for engagement towards prophesying and working for reconciliation and healing. All these endeavors can be regarded as the mission, as a whole. However, if we recognize mission as an existential calling and vocation, we cannot disregard the spirituality through which all these things gains its power and endurance. Celebration of worship means in the same time the celebration of our given human nature, which is to live in communion with one another, to share and to love one another. Through common worship liturgies according to the church year or special occasions, we can celebrate the Christian unity. This will give us the guidance and the

strength to work for the wider unity and communion of the whole creation. As for the understanding of unity in one; in Christ's body, there cannot be any self satisfaction that we have done enough for *Shalom* in the world. Still there are many communities in the world suffering from unjust conditions and destructive circumstances. We can observe a huge spectrum of different conditions and circumstances in the Asian context. From 'first-world-countries', to countries, that do not even seem to be fit enough to be put to the category of the 'third-world-countries', where the conditions do not even allow imaginations, unless you have witnessed the sorrow and grief and the miserable conditions the people 'over there' are forced to bear. Unrests, political instability and poverty seem to be the long-term agenda and ever-lasting emerging issues in the Asian context. Having suffered from a colonial past of exploitation, annihilation and domination, we still observe severe traces and still open wounds of that burdened past. Many conflicts lay many years behind - even up to centuries. But the tension and agony are still visible and/or become even more, when certain issues arise and awakes the consciousness and memory of the people. In the Asian context, situation of violent conflicts, even war situations are still vivid.

While in some developed countries people call for diet and well-being food to control their consumption of nutrition and calories, many Asian countries still suffer from starvation. While many developed countries worry about exploding global population, in many Asian countries parents lose their children, even before they can consciously recognize their parents. These and many more other issues are calling for serious attention and prophetic

# Introduction to the Theme of Asia Sunday 2010

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ministries of the churches.

In the worship, where we celebrate Asia Sunday 2010, within a liturgical frame, we are gifted with a time of repentance that we have not done enough towards the well-being of all human beings and creation. We did not raise strong and loud enough our prophetic voices.

While naming, addressing and unmasking of unjust conditions and powers and principalities, we have to take the further step, as well. We are called to embrace and accommodate all human beings and the whole creation. The “new creation” through reconciliation, given by God’s grace (2 Cor. 5: 17-19) embraces *all* human beings. Both victims and wrongdoers have been called to be “new beings” and to stand in a qualitatively new relationship to God, as well as to one another.

Being mindful that Reconciliation is a God given grace towards the human being, in order to reconcile us with God, we cannot go without the concept of the ethical dimensions of reconciliation, since we also have to deal with human relationships. Therefore we need to bring up the courage to face the painful memories of the past and everything related to it. In order to reveal the truth and let justice prevail on these. There are many situations, where revealing the truth can be a very hard and painful task. It is in the heart of our mission to accompany those who suffer from, or neglect the truth. It is our mission to bring up the courage and follow the call to raise our voices to tell the truth and proclaim that reconciliation goes beyond judgment and punishment. Reconciliation, however, does not overrun

justice. But it is the first step to re-establish relationships through patient healing. Being invited and inviting others to a totally new relationship with God, where God calls every human being righteous through God's grace, we do not judge according to the flesh, but dare to take the long and hard way of building new relationships.

This is what we want to celebrate in an eschatological sense through celebrating worship on "Asia Sunday".

The celebration of Asia Sunday 2010, shall lead us all in reviving the commitment of Asian Churches towards God's Mission. Being aware of the demands and needs of our neighbors, we cannot claim to be only the recipients, nor the donor. We are all in the One Body of Jesus Christ, where all limitations and concepts of reciprocities are transcended by the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

May the Grace and Guidance and Protection of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you, now and evermore! Amen.

For the CCA Asia Sunday Team:

Rev. Dr. Sungkook Park  
Joint Executive Secretary  
Faith, Mission and Unity

# Sermon & Bible Studies

## Asia Sunday 2010

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**Isaiah 43:18-21** <sup>18</sup> Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. <sup>19</sup> I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. <sup>20</sup> The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, <sup>21</sup> the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

**2 Corinthians 5:16-21** <sup>16</sup> From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup> So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup> that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. <sup>20</sup> So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

**Luke 4:16-21** <sup>16</sup> When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup> and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: <sup>18</sup> "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the

oppressed go free, <sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." <sup>20</sup> And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup> Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

**Revelation 21:1-6** Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; <sup>4</sup> he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." <sup>5</sup> And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup> Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

# Worship in Unity

## Asia Sunday 2010

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### Call to Worship

I look to the mountains; where will my help come from? My help will come from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. He will not let you fall; your protector is always awake. The protector of Israel never dozes or sleeps. The LORD will guard you; he is by your side to protect you. The sun will not hurt you during the day, nor the moon during the night. The LORD will protect you from all danger; he will keep you safe. He will protect you as you come and go now and forever. (Psalm 121)

### Opening Song: As the deer

As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.  
You alone are my heart desire and I long to worship you.

*You alone are my strength my shield  
To you alone my spirit yield  
You alone are my hearts desire and  
I long to worship you*

Your're my friend and You are my brother, Even though You are a king  
I love you more than any other So much more than anything

I want you more than gold and silver Only You can satisfy  
You alone are the real joy giver And apple of my eye

### Prayer in Intercession:

**Leader: *Longing for your Words, longing for your kindness, longing for life of eternity, we gathered here together to worship you, LORD.***

Community: We praise you LORD, with our heart.

## Suggested Liturgy for a short Devotion / Prayer Meeting

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*Kyrie Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Kyrie Eleison*  
(You can use another short hymn or keep a moment of silence)

**Leader: Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. (Mt. 11:28)**

Community: Praise the LORD, you heavenly beings; praise his glory and power.

*Kyrie Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Kyrie Eleison*  
(You can use another short hymn or keep a moment of silence)

**Leader: Listen to my prayer, O LORD, and hear my cry for help!**

Community: To you, O Lord, I offer my prayer; in you, my God, I trust.

*Kyrie Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Kyrie Eleison*  
(You can use another short hymn or keep a moment of silence)

**Scripture Reading:** suggestion of scriptures

Isaiah 42:1-4

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.

He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice.

He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Or:

# Worship in Unity

## Asia Sunday 2010

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### **Isaiah 61:1-4**

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners;

to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;

to provide for those who mourn in Zion-- to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

Or:

### **Luke 4:16-21**

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup> and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

## Sharing / Reflection

### Song: "My Peace I Give Unto You"

My peace I give unto you  
It's a peace that the world cannot give  
It's a peace that the world cannot understand  
Peace to give, peace to love  
My peace I give unto you

My love I give unto you  
It's a love that the world cannot give  
It's a love that the world cannot understand  
Love to give, love to love  
My love I give unto you

My joy I give unto you  
It's a joy that the world cannot give  
It's a joy that the world cannot understand  
Joy to give, joy to love  
My joy I give unto you

## LORD'S Prayer / Benediction

# General Assembly Songs & Hymns

## Asia Sunday 2010

### Out of Strange Unlikely Places

Shirley Erena Murray, 2009

S. H. Lim, 2009

With conviction ♩ = 100

E♭m Fm/A♭ B♭ A♭m E♭m/G♭ Fm/A♭ B♭

Out of strange un - like - ly plac - es at an un - ex - pect - ed hour  
By the char - ter of com - pass - ion, by the Way that Je - sus showed,  
As the lo - tus blos - som o - pens se - cret pe - tals from its pod,  
Out of strange un - like - ly plac - es God will call, and God will ask

E♭m Fm/A♭ B♭ A♭m E♭m/G♭ B♭ E♭m

pro - phet peo - ple raised their voic - es called to speak the truth to power;  
we are called to claim the vi - sion, live the Gos - pel, walk the road,  
ris - ing out of mud - died wa - ter, reach - ing to the light of God,  
ans - wers of our heart's com - mit - ment, faith to fol - low up - the task:

E♭ A♭m D♭ G♭

now with - in our ge - ne - ra - tion who a - mong us dares to speak,  
not from post - ures of per - fect - ion, but from com - mon hu - man clay,  
so may we res - pond in grow - ing, find the beau - ty of our role,  
wil - ling feet to change di - rect - ion, feel the harsh - ness of the Way,

2

E♭
A♭m
D♭/F
G♭
A♭m
B♭
E♭m

pass - ion - ate to plead for just - ice, to with - stand the world's cri - tique?  
 like the hands that hold our rice bowls, through the work of ev - ery day.  
 raise the shoots of green a - bun - dance through the life force of the soul.  
 yet be wit - ness to the king - dom for the quest - ions of our day.

© 2009, Shirley Erena Murray (lyrics) and Lim Swee Hong (music).

# General Assembly Songs & Hymns

## Asia Sunday 2010

### Lord, We Pray

(for the CCA General Assembly)

Noriel Capulong

Jean Cuanan-Nalam

*Andante*

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 6/8 time signature. The tempo is marked 'Andante'. The score consists of eight staves of music with lyrics underneath. Chord symbols are placed above the notes. The lyrics are: 'We have come on a journey from all over Asia, in search for hope seeking to be whole; amidst shattered lives, broken dreams, in our land we see a balm to heal. Lord, we pray, as one here in Asia, make us one, use us to be your arm; for justice to stay, peace to prevail. Lord,'

We have come on a journey from  
all o- ver A- sia, in search for hope  
seek- ing to be whole; a- midst shat- tered  
lives, brok- en dreams, in our land we  
see a balm to heal. Lord, we  
pray, as one here in A- sia,  
make us one, use us to be your arm; for  
just- ice to stay, peace to pre- vail. Lord,

Chord symbols: E, B/r#, E, B, E, A, Amin, E/B, G#/B#, Cmin, F#, B, E, F#min, B, A, B, E, E/G#, A, A#dim

30 E/B B E

Je- sus, this is our pray'r.

34 F#min B E

For be- hold in A- sia your

38 B/F# E B

king- dom is dawn- ing, the youth with faith

41 E A

arc a- wa- ke- ning, the el- der- ly with

45 Amin E/B G#B# Cmin

hope arc smi- ling, wo- men,

48 F# B

child- ren, in free- dom arc danc- ing.

52 E F#m/E

Lord, we pray, as one here in

55 B/F#

A- sia, make us one,

# General Assembly Songs & Hymns

## Asia Sunday 2010

Page 3

A B E E/G#

58 use us to be your arm; for just-ice to

61 stay, peace to pre-vail, Lord, Je-sus,

A A<sup>#</sup>dim E/B

65 B E C

this is our pray'r. Now we sing a song of

69 D/C C

faith for those who be-lieve; re-joic-ing in the

73 D/C B

Spi-rit, li-ving life to serve thee.

77 C7 F Gm/F

Lord, we pray as one here in

81 C/E B<sup>b</sup> C

A-sia make us one, use us to be your

85 F F/A B<sup>b</sup>

arm; for just-ice to stay, peace to pre-

99 F/C C F

vail, Lord, Je- sus, this is our pray'r,

Detailed description: This musical staff contains measures 99 through 102. It is written in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. Chord symbols F/C, C, and F are placed above the staff. The lyrics are: 'vail, Lord, Je- sus, this is our pray'r,'.

103 C F C Dmin

Lord Je- sus this is our pray'r,

Detailed description: This musical staff contains measures 103 through 106. It is written in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. Chord symbols C, F, C, and Dmin are placed above the staff. The lyrics are: 'Lord Je- sus this is our pray'r,'.

107 Bb C F/C C

Lord Je- sus this is our

Detailed description: This musical staff contains measures 107 through 110. It is written in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. Chord symbols Bb, C, F/C, and C are placed above the staff. The lyrics are: 'Lord Je- sus this is our'.

111 F

pray'r.

Detailed description: This musical staff contains measures 111 and 112. It is written in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody consists of quarter notes. Chord symbol F is placed above the staff. The lyrics are: 'pray'r.'.

# General Assembly Songs & Hymns

## Asia Sunday 2010

### God Calls Us All

Luna L Dingayan

Pearl Dingayan



1. God calls us all to pro - phe-sy to the peo-ple of our time Call them
2. God calls us all to re - con-cle and to live in u - ni - ty, Let us
3. God calls us all to heal and love and to res - tore bro - ken lives. Let us



to re-pent and to change their ways and to walk in righteousness. Though our voice of pro - phe - cy ignored and we may learn to love and to pray for those we re-gard as e - ne - mies. Let us all up - root the roots that make for a break the walls of hosti - li - ties that di - vide communi - ties. Let us build commu - ni - ties of peace where God's



live in pain or die. God our hope of ge - nuine peace and life un-to us al - ways a - bide. con - flict to e - xist. Let our lives be changed and be re - newed by the grace of God of peace. love and jus - tice reign. Let us come and ce - le - brate our life and God's love that makes us whole.

ECUMENICAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
Baguio City, PHILIPPINES  
*Luna & Pearl, October 31, 2009*

### Asia Sunday 2010 Committee of Christian Conference of Asia:

*Dr. Prawate Khid-arn*  
General Secretary

*Rev. Dr. Sungkook Park*  
Joint Executive Secretary, FMU

*Rev. Freddy de Alwis*  
Joint Executive Secretary, JID

*Ms. Moumita Biswas*  
Joint Executive Secretary, EGY

May we all have a meaningful Asia Sunday!

**Rev. Dr. Sungkook Park**  
Joint Executive Secretary  
Faith, Mission & Unity



**Logo:** The orange figure with outstretched and embracing arms symbolizes the act of reaching out to heal and to reconcile. The grey wave at the bottom is the breath of God symbolizing God's call to prophesy. Taken together, the logo presents the assembly's theme: *Called to Prophecy, Reconcile and Heal.*