

“I Have Heard About Your Faith” Taiwan – 2023

World Day of Prayer – Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action

- ❖ Is a **world-wide movement, led by Christian women** of many traditions.
- ❖ It is celebrated in services on the **first Friday in March** each year in over **170 countries throughout the world**.
- ❖ Each year the service is written by the women of a different country and is sent around the world by the World Day of Prayer International Committee, based in New York. Committees in each country then prepare it for use in their own countries.
- ❖ It has been officially celebrated in New Zealand since 1931.

BACKGROUND

- 1887 Presbyterian women of USA begin an annual day of prayer for home mission.
- 1900s Many denominations have annual days of prayer for different aspects of mission.
- 1920s Various days of prayer become one World Day of Prayer in 1927. Observance on first Friday in Lent becomes fixed as first Friday in March.
- 1930s Different countries begin to write the annual services. New Zealand has written it twice – in 1938 and 1973.
- 1987 Centennial Celebrations held in many countries.
- 2021 World Day of Prayer Service written by women of Vanuatu.
- 2022 World Day of Prayer Service written by women of England, Wales & Northern Ireland.
- 2023 World Day of Prayer Service written by women of Taiwan.
- 2024 World Day of Prayer Service written by women of Palestine.

YOUR 2023 OFFERINGS WILL CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS THESE PROJECTS:

Christian World Service – Developers Foundation working with poor rural families in the Aklan Province of the Philippines and Gender inequalities with COVID-19 – The Women’s Centre – Sri Lanka.

The **Bible Society** ‘Beacon in the darkness of illiteracy’ project to provide literacy classes for impoverished, illiterate Christian women in Pakistan.

The **Interchurch Council for Hospital Chaplaincy** in New Zealand.