



***Thank you, Dear Achen***

*A prayer service dedicated to our Achens and a celebration of Father's Day.*

***Invocation***

*Seek ye first the Kingdom of God  
And His righteousness  
And all these things shall be added unto you  
Allelu Alleluia*

*Ask and it shall be given unto you  
Seek and ye shall find  
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you  
Allelu Alleluia  
Alleluia Alleluia...*

***P: Opening Prayer***

God our Father, Lord of all the world, through your Son you have called us into the fellowship of your universal Church: hear our prayer for our Achens that in their vocation and ministry each may be an instrument of your love.

We thank you for the gift of Dads. We thank you that you are the greatest Dad ever, Abba Father, and we know that you cover us in your great love.

We pray that you continue to give us, your children, the gifts of grace; now and forever. Amen.

***Opening Hymn***

*Come, Holy Spirit, like a dove descending,  
Rest Thou upon us while we meet to pray;  
Show us the Savior, His great love revealing,  
Lead us to Him, the Life, the Truth, the Way.*

*Come, Holy Spirit, every cloud dispelling,  
Fill us with gladness, through the Master's name;  
Bring to our memory words that He hath spoken,*

Then shall our tongues His wondrous grace proclaim.

Come, Holy Spirit, sent from God the Father  
Thou friend and teacher, comforter and guide  
Our thoughts directing, keep us close to Jesus,  
And in our hearts forevermore abide.

Author: Robert Bruce, Music - Ira D. Sankey

### **Kauma**

**P.** †Glory be to the Father our Creator, to the Son our Redeemer and to the Holy Spirit who sanctifies us.

**C.** As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**P.** Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.

**C.** Blessed is He that has come and is to come again in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

**P.** Holy art thou, O God.

**C.** Holy art thou, Almighty Lord.

**P.** Holy art thou, Immortal Lord.

**C.** O Lord, the Messiah who was crucified for us † have mercy on us.

### **(To be repeated thrice)**

**P.** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C.** O Lord, have mercy on us and bless us.

**P.** O Lord, accept our prayers and worship and have mercy on us.

**C.** Glory be to you, O God.

**P.** Glory be to you, O Creator.

**C.** Glory be to you, O King the Messiah; who has mercy on us sinners. Bless us, O Lord.

(Let us sing together the prayer that Jesus taught us)

**All: Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name,  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, On earth as it is done in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, Forever. Amen.**

### **(Cong. to be seated)**

Lesson 1: Ezekiel 33:1-9

Lesson 2: 1st Timothy 6:11-16

## **L: Meditation- Rev. T. J. Andrews – Mooledam, Kottayam (1871 – 1942)**

Rev. Andrew was born on 15th April, 1871, in Mooledam village near Kottayam.

After his basic education at CSI Mission School, Mooledam, he passed the matriculation examination from Kottayam CMS College with good grades. Impressed by his intelligence and exemplary character, an English factory owner in Calcutta offered him a job with a salary of Rs.100/- per month. But he had other priorities and accepted the job of a Munshi (Malayalam Teacher) with a salary of Rs. 9/- per month and taught Malayalam to the British CMS missionaries. His deep faith in God helped him look beyond the world's value system to see the eternal values of God's kingdom. Later he became an evangelist and had a great concern for poor tribal people of Devikulam Taluk in Kottayam District.

In 1906, he became a deacon and in 1909 a priest. Till 1935, he worked among the Muthuvan tribal community of Devikulam. Like the New Testament Andrew, he introduced many to Jesus, and was affectionately known as "Kerala Andrew". He was an evangelist of exceptional courage. He used to conduct open air meetings during Thrissur Pooram and other temple festivals. He was severely mistreated and tortured many times for his strong stand and faith.

In addition to Malayalam, he was well versed in English, Hebrew, Greek, Syriac, Tamil, and Sanskrit. Many hymns in our book 'Kristheeya Keerthhanangal' are written by him.

*Yeshu en adisthanam ashayanamilathree*

*Aashwasaththin poornhatha Yeshuvil kanden njaanum"*

This is a great hymn and has found its way into the hearts of millions. The words of this hymn portray Achen's personal experiences, which he narrated from his sickbed to his son. He was called home to be with God, the Father on his 72nd birthday on 15<sup>th</sup> April, 1942.

<https://nalloorlibrary.com/>

### **Hymn**

*Yeshu en adisthanam aasha avanilathre*

*Aaswasathin poornatha Yeshuvin kande najnum*

*Ethra madhuramavan naamamenikku parthal*

*Orthu varum thorumen aarthy manju pokumne*

*Paapathal ennil vanna shapakkarakal neekky*

*Shobhitha neethy vasthram aabharanamay nalkum*

*Vekkam than manavatty aakkidum enne annu*

*Vaakkundenikku thante neekkamillathinottu*

### **L: Thank you, Achens, Thank you Father**

Have you ever walked in our Achen's shoes,  
And gone where his feet have trod?  
Have you ever thought of what he means to us,  
And on your knees, given thanks to God?

Have you ever told him thank you,  
For being there, when times are tough,  
For comforting words and fervent prayers  
When trials come and the storms of life are rough?

He answers our calls in the middle of the night  
And tells us not to worry, for he will be there.  
He gives up his comfort of quiet rest  
And comes with prayers of comfort to share.

Have you ever thought to say thank you Pastor,  
For preaching God's word to help us understand,

For all the times he has asked for things  
That will lend us a helping hand?

When you pray, put him at the top of the list  
And ask the Lord to surround him with loving care,  
To give him strength and walk with him,  
To help him with the burdens that he must bear.

Have you ever walked in your Father's shoes,  
And gone where his feet have trod?  
Have you ever thought of what he means to us,  
And on your knees, given thanks to God?

Poem by Judy Crowe

**P: What Makes A Dad**

God took the strength of a mountain,  
The majesty of a tree,  
The warmth of a summer sun,  
The calm of a quiet sea,  
The generous soul of nature,  
The comforting arm of night,  
The wisdom of the ages,  
The power of the eagle's flight,  
The joy of a morning in spring,  
The faith of a mustard seed,  
The patience of eternity,  
The depth of a family need,  
Then God combined these qualities,  
When there was nothing more to add,  
He knew His masterpiece was complete,  
And so, He called it... Dad

Brie Carter

(Cong. to stand)

***Kyrie Elieson, Kyrie Elieson, Kyrie Elieson***  
***Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy***

**Psalm 99**

**P:** <sup>1</sup> The Lord reigns,  
let the nations tremble;  
he sits enthroned between the cherubim,  
let the earth shake.

**C:** <sup>2</sup> Great is the Lord in Zion;  
he is exalted over all the nations.

**P:** <sup>3</sup> Let them praise your great and awesome name—  
he is holy.

**C:** <sup>4</sup> The King is mighty, he loves justice—  
you have established equity;  
in Jacob you have done  
what is just and right.

**P:** <sup>5</sup> Exalt the Lord our God  
and worship at his footstool;

he is holy.

**C:** <sup>6</sup> Moses and Aaron were among his priests,  
Samuel was among those who called on his name;  
they called on the Lord and he answered them.

**P:** <sup>7</sup> He spoke to them from the pillar of cloud;  
they kept his statutes and the decrees he gave them.

**C:** <sup>8</sup> Lord our God,  
you answered them;  
you were to Israel a forgiving God,  
though you punished their misdeeds.  
Exalt the Lord our God  
and worship at his holy mountain,  
for the Lord our God is holy.

***Kyrie Elieson, Kyrie Elieson, Kyrie Elieson  
Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy***

### **Intercessory Prayers**

**L:** Look with mercy, O Lord, on your holy Church throughout the world, on all the bishops who bear the burden of leading and guiding her. We remember and pray for our Bishops-, Dr. Geevarghese Mar Theodosius, Thomas Mar Timotheos, Euyakim Mar Coorilos, Joseph Mar Barnabas, Issac Mar Philoxenos, Abraham Mar Paulose. Mathews Mar Makarios, Gregorios Mar Stephanos, Thomas Mar Theethos and all the priests and deacons of our Church. Give to each one Your Holy Spirit and lead them through your Word to serve with love.

**C:** He leadeth me! O blessed thought,  
O words with heav'nly comfort fraught;  
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,  
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.  
He leadeth me! He leadeth me!  
By His own hand He leadeth me;  
His faithful follower I would be,  
For by His hand He leadeth me.

**L:** Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our Achen. Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments. Help our priests to be strong in their vocation. Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom and give them the words they need to spread the Gospel. In moments of loneliness, doubt, troubles, worry and disappointment, we pray that You will be with them and continue to lead them. Amen.

*C: Sometimes 'mid scenes of deepest gloom,  
Sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,  
By waters calm, o'er troubled sea,  
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.  
He leadeth me! He leadeth me!  
By His own hand He leadeth me;  
His faithful follower I would be,  
For by His hand He leadeth me.*

**L:** We pray for the many missions of the Church. We remember the work of the many Bishops and Priests of the Church and their efforts to reach out to more people with the Word, to be of healing and hope to many. We pray for the mission fields, the schools and colleges, the hospitals and clinics, the daycare and vocation centres and the many activities of our Church that give hope, and are lighted to lighten. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who leads us, lives in us and reigns as our Eternal Priest. Amen.

*C: Lord, I would clasp Thy hand in mine,  
Nor ever murmur or repine;  
Content, whatever lot I see,  
Since my God that leadeth me.  
He leadeth me! He leadeth me!  
By His own hand He leadeth me;  
His faithful follower I would be,  
For by His hand He leadeth me.*

*L: We pray for your blessing and strength over every Dad in this world, for those who are seeking to walk closely with you in a dark world, and for those who just need to be reminded that you are real. We ask for renewed courage, for boldness, for your Spirit to fill them. We ask that you keep their footsteps firm, and guard their way. We ask that you help them to always stand strong, to be men of faith, to say "no" to what is wrong, and to say "yes" to what is right. We ask that you fill their hearts with love, compassion, joy, faithfulness, and cover their lives with great peace. Bless them with the reassurance that it is Your hand that will always lead them. Amen.*

*C: And when my task on earth is done,  
When, by Thy grace, the victory's won,  
E'en death's cold wave I will not flee,  
Since Thou in triumph ledest me.*

*He leadeth me! He leadeth me!  
By His own hand He leadeth me;  
His faithful follower I would be,  
For by His hand He leadeth me.*

*Lyrics: Joseph Henry Gilmore (1834-1918)  
Music: William Batchelder Bradbury (1816-1868)*

### **Gospel Reading**

**P:** †Peace be with you all.

**C:** May the Lord make us all worthy to listen to His Word.

**P:** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, which proclaims life and salvation to the world as recorded by Apostle Matthew.

**C:** Blessed is He that has come and will come again. Praise to the Father who sent him for our Salvation. May His blessings be ever upon us.

**P:** In the days of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, the Word of life, God incarnate of the blessed Virgin Mary, it happened in this way.

**C:** So, we believe and affirm.

Matthew 9:35-38 (After reading the Gospel, the priest says, †**Peace be with you all!**)

**C:** We thank you, Lord, that you have given us your gospel which is indeed the light of the world, that we may be drawn closer to you through the living words from your gospel which we have now heard.

### **The Nicene Creed**

**P:** We believe in the one true God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

**C:** We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all world; Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made, who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man. He was crucified† also for us in the days of Pontius Pilate; suffered and died and was buried. The third day He rose again, by His Father's holy will, ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father. He will come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead and of His kingdom there will be no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets and the apostles. We believe in one Holy Catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and the new life of the world to come. Amen.

### **Birthday, Wedding Anniversary and Thanksgiving**

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,  
Naught be all else to me save that Thou art  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night  
Waking or sleeping Thy presence my light

Be thou my wisdom, and Thou my true Word  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me Lord  
Thou my great Father, I Thy true Son  
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise:  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always  
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart  
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won  
May I reach heavens joys, O bright heav'n's Sun  
Heart of my own heart, whatever be-fall  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;  
Be thou my armor, be thou my true might;  
Thou my soul's shelter, my only strong tower  
Raise thou me heavenward, great Power of power

Ancient Irish hymn translated by Eleanor Hull, 1912

### **Announcements**

#### **Offertory**

Savior, lead me lest I stray,  
Gently lead me all the way;  
I am safe when by Thy side,  
I would in Thy love abide.

*Lead me, lead me,  
Savior, lead me lest I stray;  
Gently down the stream of time,  
Lead me, Savior, all the way.*

Thou the refuge of my soul  
When life's stormy billows roll;  
I am safe when Thou art nigh,  
All my hopes on Thee rely.

Savior, lead me then at last,  
When the storm of life is past,  
To the land of endless day,  
Where all tears are wiped away.

Frank M. Davis, 1880

### **Message**

**(Cong. to stand)**

### **Closing Prayer**

#### **P: An Achen's Prayer**

Dear Lord,  
I thank you for this gift of being a shepherd for your people.  
When they worry, let me share their tears.  
When they laugh, let me celebrate.  
When they are sad, let me remember them.  
When they pray, let me echo their prayers.  
When they need to be heard, let me listen.  
When they are being tried, let me encourage them.  
When they are lost, send me to find them.  
When they are victorious, let me lead the rejoicing.  
When they feel unloved, let me remind them of your love.  
When they are wounded, let me bring them to your healing.  
When they sin, lead me to help them repent.  
When they are searching for you, let me point the way.  
When they are suffering, give me the strength to sit with them.  
O Lord, give me the heart of Christ, the hands of the Spirit and the power of the Word to guide these people. Amen

**C:** We thank Thee For the hands that hold God's word  
And fold in prayer to seek His will.  
We thank Thee For the feet that walk the path  
And offers of praise as from lofty hill.

We see the hands that serve Him well,  
The ears that seek to hear His call,  
The mouth that speaks truth and wisdom,  
And the hard work that provides for us all. Amen

### **Benediction**

**P:** May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. Galatians 6:14

Dear Lord, bless us in our ministrations, always guiding us and leading us so that we can point out your way, through your word, to these your people.  
May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### **Doxology and Kiss of Peace**

I am thinking today of that beautiful land  
I shall reach when the sun goeth down;  
When through wonderful grace by my Savior I stand,  
Will there be any stars in my crown?

Will there be any stars, any stars in my crown  
When at evening the sun goeth down?  
When I wake with the blest in the mansions of rest  
Will there be any stars in my crown?

