

A CALL TO THE CHURCHES
TO OBSERVE
THE INDIAN CONSTITUTION DAY
On Sunday the 26th of November, 2017

Order of Worship

IN CELEBRATION OF OUR CONSTITUTION

Leader: Sixty eight years ago on 26, November 1949 the Constitution of India adopted in the Constituent Assembly of India. And it is time that we the faithful community of God express our thanks and gratitude to God who made it possible that we not only become a free people but also have our own Constitution drafted by our own leaders.

People: Praise God from all blessings flow, Praise him/her all creatures below,
Praise him/her above the heavenly hosts, Praise Father (parents) Son, and Holy Spirit.

Words fail us to offer our heartfelt thanks to you, O God of history, culture and civilization, as we remember the leaders and people of our land called Bharat who made it possible to have Our Own Constitution to be guided, ruled and directed by. It was a great day when we adopted the Constitution and made it our own in order to build a Bharat of our own dreams, hopes and aspirations.

All: JAI BHARAT !

Leader: Let us all together repeat the Mantra

Mantrocharan: Kristam Saranam Gacchami
Tri-yeshwar Saranam Gacchami
Parishuddhatama Saranam Gacchami

(Lighting the lamp)

Leader: We are thankful to God who gave us leaders like Gandhi, Nehru, Patel, Azad who made it possible for us, the people of India, not only to be a free people and independent nation but also gave a person like Ambedkar who guided in drafting and adopting the Constitution.

People: JAI BHARAT !

Thank you God for the Constitution which makes us a proud people. By adopting it sixty eight years ago on 26 November 1949 we pledged ourselves to uphold it in letter and spirit.

- Hymn:**
1. God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power,
Crown thine ancient church's story, bring its bud to glorious flower
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.
 2. Lo! The hosts of evil round us, scorn thy Christ, assail your ways!
From the fears that long have bound us ,
free our hearts to faith and praise
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days,
For the living of these days.
 3. Fill us with a living wisdom; heal our wounds that we may be
Bound as one beyond division in the journey to be free
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, ears to hear to hear and eyes to see
Ears to hear and eyes to see.

Confession:

People: Compassionate and caring God your agape-love expressed in the person of Jesus Christ, our Lord, Saviour and Liberator makes us fall on our knees and confess that we have sinned against you, against your creation, against our neighbours and against ourselves. This has alienated us from each other. We have not kept your commandment "to love your neighbour as yourself" and thus failed to uphold the values of freedom and equality and of justice and peace in our homes and society. Forgive and pardon us of our callousness, of our self-centeredness. Heal and help us to love and live together as good neighbours respecting and defending each other's dignity and freedom.

Silence

People: Saranam, Saranam, Saranam;
Jesus Saviour Lord to thee I fly;
Thou the rock, the refuge that's higher than I;
Saranam, Saranam, Saranam.

Leader: Agape-God forgive and pardon us of our limitations, shortcomings and frailties and Sins and heal and help us to live a life acceptable to God and to our neighbours.

People: Amen! Amen!

Our father who is in heaven, holy is your name
Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. Do not bring us to the time of trial but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn: **How Great Thou Art**

Oh Lord my God
When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds
Thy hands have made
I see the stars
I hear the rolling thunder
Thy power throughout
The universe displayed
Then sings my soul
My Savior, God, to Thee
How great thou art
How great thou art
How great thou art
Then sings my soul
My Savior, God, to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art
How great Thou art

And when I think of God,
His son not sparing,
Sent Him to die,
I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross, my burden
gladly bearing He bled and died
to take away my sin

Then sings my soul
My Savior, God, to Thee
How great thou art
How great thou art
Then sings my soul
My Savior, God, to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art

When Christ shall come
With shout of acclamation
And take...

Scripture: a) Hebrew Bible (O.T.)

b) Psalm 144: 12-15

c) New Testament: (i) Epistle: Rom.12: 2,9-18

(ii) Gospel: Math. 5: 3-10, 13-16

Reflection: Theme: Justice and Peace go together

Hymn:

1. Breathe on me, Breath of God; Fill me with life anew,
That I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.
2. Breathe on me, Breath of God; until my heart is pure,
Until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.
3. Breathe on me Breath of God; till I am wholly thine,
Until this earthly part of me, Glows with thy fire divine.
4. Breathe on me, breath of God; So shall I never die,
But live with Thee the perfect life of Thine eternity.

Leader: Let us read together the Preamble of the Indian Constitution.

People: "WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a SOVEREIGN SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC and to secure to all its citizens: JUSTICE, social, economic, and political; LIBERTY of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship; Equality of status, and of opportunity; and to promote among them all FRATERNITY assuring the dignity of all the individual and the unity and integrity of the Nation; IN OUR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY this twenty-sixth day of November, 1949, do HEREBY ADOPT, ENACT AND GIVE TO OURSELVES THIS CONSTITUTION."

Silence In a mood of prayer and thanks giving

People: God of life and of livelihood, God of freedom and forgiveness help us to uphold the principles of freedom, democracy, justice and equality enshrined in our Constitution. Guide the people of Bharat, India to make it a land of milk and honey, of bread and butter and of peace and prosperity.

Leader: May the God of life and love hear our prayers and help us to build a Bharat in which its citizens will live together as sisters and brothers, walk hand in hand and work together side by side.

People: Send us God into your world to serve you and to serve each other and protect and uphold the Constitution of India.

Leader: Go in peace and serve God, country and people.

People: Shanti ! Shanti ! Shanti !

Prepared by: Rev. Dr. Satish C. Gyan, a renowned Theologian. Former General Secretary, Student Christian Movement of India; and Former Director/General Secretary, Raipur Churches Development & Relief Committee

Raipur Churches Development & Relief Committee

UCNITA COMPOUND, MAHASAMUND:CHHATTISGARH – 493-445 :E-mail:
< rcdrc.cc14@rediffmail.com >