

(1/15/78)

INTRODUCTION

The week of toil has ended. The day of rest is at hand!

May the rest and the quiet of this hour of worship refresh our inner life. May it renew in all of us a sense of God's holy and abiding Presence. In silence, let each pray as the heart may prompt.

MEDITATION

We rest our hearts in the Promise of Jesus who said:

"Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of Me, for My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

"Wait on the Lord. Be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart. For we dwell in the shelter of the Almighty. He is our refuge and our strength."

"But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings as eagles. They shall run and not be weary. They shall walk and not faint".

PRAYERS / LORD'S PRAYER

O Thou, who hearest prayer, hear our prayers - for others as well as for ourselves.

Thou who art the source of all peace and power, touch with healing those whom we mention in our prayers this hour, especially

Ruth Frame and Meriel West

beloved members of this congregation. Comfort the bereaved and the broken-hearted among us.

Answer the unspoken prayers offered to thee on the altars of our hearts, spoken in the name and the spirit of Jesus Christ who taught us to say when we pray:

"Our Father, who art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen"

PASTORAL PRAYER: January 15, 1978

ETERNAL SPIRIT - who, whether we walk through green pastures,
beside still waters, or
through the valley of the shadow of death,
canst be our guide and our helper.

BEHOLD US NOW - here in this sanctuary, seeking in a common
prayer light upon our separate ways,
strength and illumination within our lives.

SEEK US OUT - one by one - in those special circumstances of
need that have drawn us here this hour.

HERE - lift up the unhappy souls into joy,
the discouraged souls into encouragement,
the defeated souls into victory and thus enable us

"To fight the good fight,
To keep the faith,
To finish the course"

BREATHE into our hearts, O God, goodwill and generosity.
BREAKDOWN our stubborn prejudices,
SAVE US from narrow, racist, un-Christlike attitudes.
FORGIVE US that at times we can be such a large part of
the world's problems...such a small and
insignificant part of its solutions.

GUIDE AND UPHOLD US through the days of this new year that we may be more
than conquerors in the inner struggle against all
that is degrading in life.

HELP THOSE of us who try to walk in the Jesus way to be
agents of His love - pure in thought, gracious
in speech, courageous in deed, kind and considerate
in our estimates of others.

WE PRAY for the person who sits near us in the pew this hour.
We pray that he or she may be receptive to the
probings of Your spirit.

WE PRAY for him who brings the message of the hour, grateful
for his witness to Your word throughout his life-
time, for all he has done to break down those walls
that separate brother from brother, sister from
sister.

FINALLY:

"Grant us serenity to accept the things we cannot change;
the courage to change the things we can, and the wisdom to
know the difference. In the spirit of Christ, we pray.

EUGENE C. BLAKE

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AREA CODE 203 357-7605

October 21, 1977

The Rev. Philip Clarke
Park Avenue Methodist Church
106 East Eighty-Sixth Street
New York, NY 10028

Dear Phil:

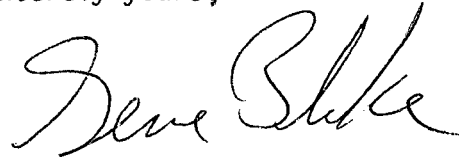
Responding to your letter of September 13, let me propose that I preach on the 15th of January next on the subject "The Open Door".

There will be two lessons, if that is possible, which I suggest you head First Lesson and Second Lesson. The first one would be Rev, 3:7-13 and the second, Col. 1:15-30. I believe it would be best if that would be read in the revised standard version.

I am enclosing my brief biographical sketch which I hope is something of what you want.

I have chosen to do the "ecumenical up-date" rather than the world hunger subject.

Very sincerely yours,



ECB:11

Enclosure

Rev. Dr. Eugene Conson Blake
111 Sayenport Drive
Stamford, Connecticut 06902.

Dr. Blake retired on November 1, 1972 from his position as General Secretary of the World Council of Churches to which post he had been elected in 1966.

He is a member of the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. and a member of Southern New England Presbytery, having been ordained in 1932 by the Presbytery of West Jersey.

Born in St. Louis, Missouri on November 7, 1906, he attended public schools in St. Louis, Washington, D.C., and Kenilworth, Illinois until 1921. He was graduated cum laude from Lawrenceville School, Lawrenceville, New Jersey in 1924. He was graduated from Princeton University with a Bachelor of Arts degree with honors in Philosophy in 1928. He played varsity football there in the seasons of 1925, 1926 and 1927. He was President of the Philadelphian Society, the then undergraduate Christian Association of the University for the year 1927-28.

He studied Theology (1929-30) at New College, Edinburgh, Scotland, and was graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1932 with the degree of Bachelor of Theology.

Dr. Blake taught Philosophy and English at Forman Christian College, Lahore, India (now Pakistan) - 1928-1929.

He was :

Assistant Pastor, Collegiate Church of
St. Nicholas, New York City 1932-35

Pastor, First Presbyterian Church,
Albany, New York 1935-40

Pastor, Pasadena Presbyterian Church,
Pasadena, California 1940-51

* Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of
the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.
(since 1958, United Presbyterian Church) 1951-66 15 yrs

* General Secretary of the World Council
of Churches 1966-72 6 yrs

* Dr. Blake holds a number of honorary Doctorates from colleges and universities including Princeton, Yale, St. Louis, Fordham, Leningrad Academy, USSR, and Debrecen, Hungary.

* As a Presbyterian churchman, he has been noted for his contributions to the confessional revision in his own denomination in 1967, to the ecumenical movement, to civil rights, to church union efforts, and for his leadership in the program against Racism and the world development activities of the World Council of Churches. Since January 1974, he has been President of Bread for the World, a christian citizens movement in the U.S.A. In March 1975, he was made Pastor emeritus of the Pasadena Presbyterian Church in Pasadena, California.

- ✓ San Francisco - proposal (Blake/Pike) - now COCU - 10 denoms
- ✓ Civil Rights - marched, jailed
- ✓ WCC - Racism / Development - Internetil story etc etc