

**Prayer from the 1st
Northeast Asia Area Council
Youth Empowerment Programme
October 2019**

Dear Father in Heaven,

Thank you for leading the 2019 NEAAC Youth Empowerment Program and gathering young people together. You gave us the opportunity to embrace the vision of connection, bring peace to the Northeast Asia and gain strength for the empowerment of the youth.

We face different challenges in our societies and churches:

In **Hong Kong**, violence and injustice saturates the society. Young people are losing hope for their future when the institution is monopolized by the rich and there is decreasing freedom. Many are feeling desperate and powerless towards the government bureaucracies. Relationships are broken due to polarized political beliefs.

In **Japan**, there are so many people who are suffering from harrassment. Many young animals are also abused. Some foreigners cannot get their basic rights and welfare because of their nationalities.

In **Korea**, justice is not established in church. A pastor inherits the church from his father. Conflicts between the old and the young grow intense. Living as a youth is a struggle due to financial pressures, discrimination, patriarchy, competition and a lack of conversation. There is no place for youth.

In **Taiwan**, Indigenous people are facing cultural loss, which includes their languages, self identification and traditional territories. The gap between the young people and the seniors grows wider, and is filled with hatred, misunderstanding and indifference.

On the other side, Taiwanese youth are standing with gender justice, which still divides families, churches and society. There is a strong feeling that the country is being destroyed by threats, disinformation, and the Empire.

Oh Lord, do not make us indifferent to these problems. Help us think and find a way to address them.

Let us pray for people who wanted to but couldn't come here because of their own reasons.

Let us always be connected and try to accept each other.

Let us speak loudly for those who don't have a voice and the minorities.

Let us open the mind of the elderly for conversation.

Let us try to overcome the difficulties and share our vision, as well as prayers with each others and our local churches, to create a brighter future.

In the name of Jesus Christ we pray,

Amen.