Peace Starts With Me - Come Together Children rally ignited waves of hope

Demian Dunkley September 23, 2020



The recent <u>Peace Starts With Me: Come Together Children</u> virtual rally held September 21 ignited waves of hope online in a time of uncertainty, flooding multiple social platforms with a global call for unity and peace.

The virtual rally, broadcasted on the <u>International Day of Peace</u> established by the United Nations in 1981, is a timely reminder for all humanity to commit to peace above all differences and contribute to building a global culture of peace.

"The earth is suffering due to the ignorance of humanity and we worry about the future of our beloved children," said Mother of Peace Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon in her rally message. "The politicians and the leaders of the world need to know Heaven's providence; they need to honor God. Only then can they truly fulfill their duty to serve their people and their nation ... We will surely succeed if we work with God. There is no time to delay."

Prominent leaders joined Dr. Moon's call for peace during the rally, including speakers Rev. Dennis Dillon, publisher of The Christian Times and chief minister of the Brooklyn Christian Center; Dr. Luonne Rouse, national co-chairman of the <u>American Clergy Leadership Conference</u> (ACLC); and Bishop Noel Jones of City of Refuge megachurch in Los Angeles.

"The chaos that we find ourselves in is defined by all religious cultures as humanity's estrangement from God," said Bishop Jones in his rally address. "Religion teaches that free will causes us to go astray, but

God is forgiving."

He explained the disconnect between humanity and God according to the world's major faiths, concluding that we are part of God's Will and He has given humanity the tools and knowledge to come together. "Nature, and everything around us, is waiting for human beings to have peace and love with each other so we can reinstitute the kind of ecological benefit that comes when we have peace with one another," said Bishop Jones.

Dr. Moon, co-founder of Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU) and numerous international peacebuilding initiatives, launched the first Peace Starts With Me rally in July 2017. The global peace movement joining hundreds of thousands of people from around the world went virtual in August, continuing in a monthly series through the end of 2020.

"This movement is expanding; let's all be a part of Peace Starts With Me together as one family under God," said rally host and FFWPU-USA President Rev. Demian Dunkley.

Rev. Dunkley moderated a panel QandA during the rally with syndicated radio personality Liz Black; Revs. Louise Scott-Roundtree and Mark Abernathy; Yaviel Ben Zvi, researcher of indigenous ethics and universal human rights; and Brian Fender of Jazz Power Initiative, where they discussed necessary steps to realizing and sustaining world peace. Quotes of key peacemakers like Martin Luther King, Jr. and Mother Teresa were also featured in a special video montage.

A chart-topping lineup of musical artists -- hallmarks of the peace rallies -- included gospel singers Hezekiah Walker, JoAnn Rosario Condrey, and Wess Morgan; Christian band Citizen Way; and the award-winning Soul Children of Chicago who all gave powerful performances wowing viewers at home.

With more than 170 nations currently pledging a global ceasefire, spurred by the United Nations in March to stand united against the COVID-19 pandemic, world leaders are hoping 2020 can usher in a new era of peace where all of God's children come together at last.

You can watch the full rally and help spread the message of Peace Starts With Me by donating here. And share your support by registering for the One Million Rally of Hope on September 26 at 8:30 p.m. EST.