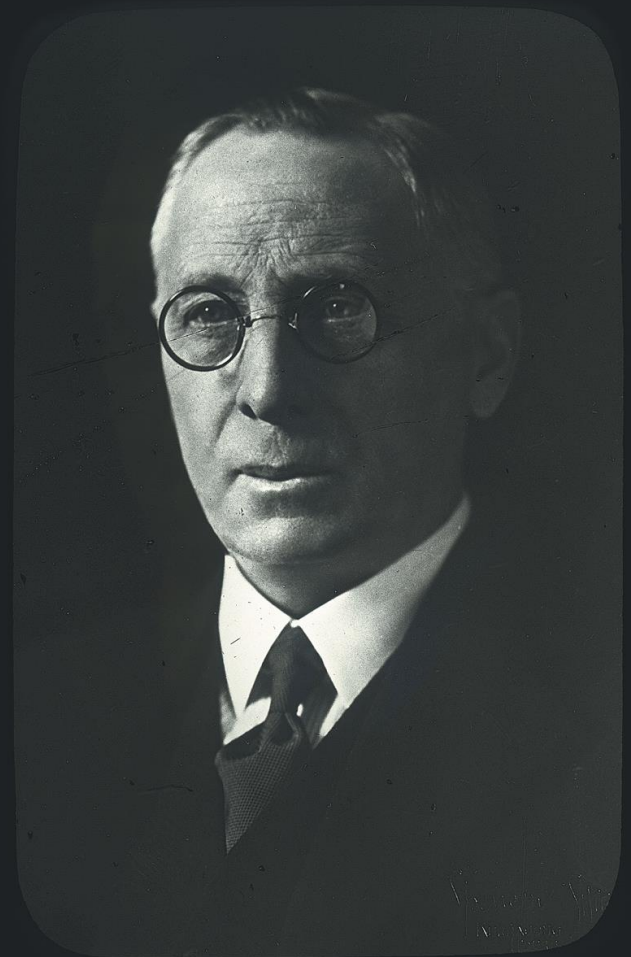


THE *JOHN FLYNN* FOUNDATION



*Continuing his vision  
for the Inland*

John Flynn Foundation  
**ORDER OF SERVICE 2021**





# Acknowledgement of First Peoples

From river to ocean, from campfire to hearth, may the First People who have cared for this land be blessed.

From breath to song, from step to dance, may those who follow your songlines guide us on the journey of living honourably in this place.

From greeting to Amen, from silence to chorus, may our worship join with the voices of the First Peoples of this land.

# Flynn of the Inland

I think John Flynn was an extraordinary character. He was somebody who loved people, loved the bush, had a deep faith in God and was driven by that sense of God's calling on his life. He was an extraordinarily selfless person.





John Flynn, 1880 - 1951

A beauty picture taken during John Flynn's last visit to Adelaide in 1950.

*"One who sees like no other, who dared to look at this Continent with his own far-seeing eyes — not with the eyes of scholars or explorers, but rather with the vision of one who came to minister."*

A.I.M. FRONTIER NEWS 3



MRS. JOHN FLYNN

Mrs. Flynn has been associated with the work of the Australian Inland Mission since the early twenties  
... as Secretary to the Board  
... as Wife of the Founder  
... as "Mother" to the A.I.M. Family.

She continues to be the leader and guiding spirit of the Sydney Office Teams, and, addressing gatherings far and wide, she inspires others with the story of the A.I.M.

A.I.M. FRONTIER NEWS

←Continued on page 11

### *John Flynn and his wife Jean Flynn.*

John Flynn believed he was commissioned to bring Christ to the people of inland Australia and to improve their conditions of life. He saw it much more broadly in terms of seeking to meet all the needs of the people in the Outback, not just their spiritual needs.

*Reverend Gregor Henderson  
(Former Chair of the John Flynn Foundation)*

# Call to Worship

Creator God we gather together from many places, pasts and communities to celebrate and worship together, as your people.

## **We come to worship God.**

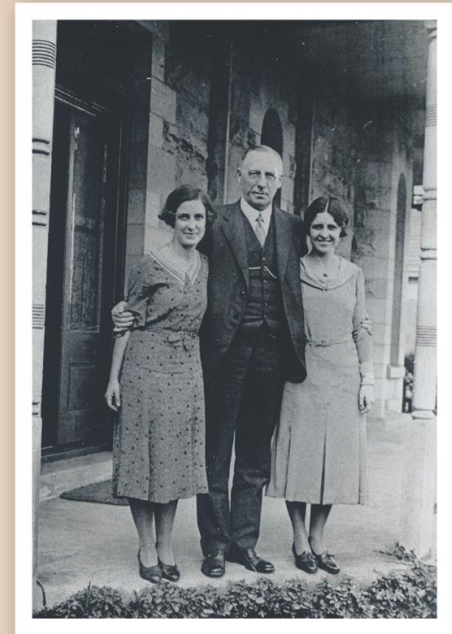
Jesus, life-giver, we celebrate all that brings us together. We are on a journey, learning and celebrating.

## **We come to worship Jesus.**

Spirit of love, we are a living community and we give thanks for the movement of the Spirit - ever inspiring, strengthening, moving and challenging us.

## **We come to worship the Spirit.**

**Amen.**



*Reverend John Flynn at  
Manly Manse with Nancy  
and Catherine Williams,  
daughters of Reverend  
Thomas Jamieson Williams*

# Hymn

*Taken from a selection of hymns in John Flynn's 'The Bushman's Companion' (1910)*

## **Work, for the Night is Coming**

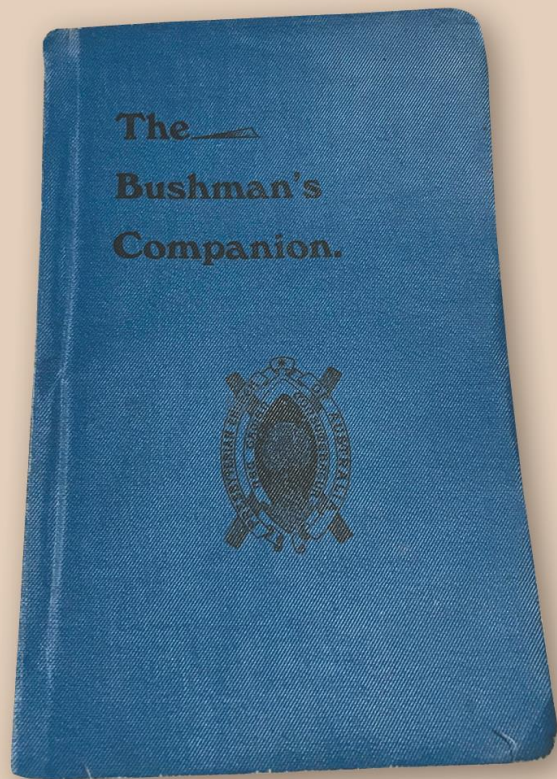
1. Work, for the night is coming!  
Work through the morning hours:  
Work while the dew is sparkling;  
Work 'mid springing flowers;  
Work while the day grows brighter,  
Under the glowing sun;  
Work, for the night is coming,  
When man's work is done.

2. Work, for the night is coming!  
Work through the sunny noon:  
Fill the bright hours with labour;  
Rest comes sure and soon.

Give to each flying minute  
Something to keep in store;  
Work, for the night is coming,  
When man works no more.

3. Work, for the night is coming!  
Under the sunset skies,  
While their bright tints are glowing,  
Work, for daylight flies.  
Work till the last beam fadeth,  
Fadeth to shine no more;  
Work, while the night is darkening,  
When man's work is o'er.  
Amen.

# Prayer of Confession



“Let knowledge grow from more to more,  
But more of reverence in us dwell;  
That mind and soul, according well,  
May make one music as before.

But vaster. We are fools and slight,  
We mock thee when we do not fear;  
But help thy foolish ones to bear;  
Help thy vain world to bear thy light.”

*Excerpt from The Bushman's Companion, p. 61*

# Readings

1 Samuel 3:1-10

Psalms 104: 24-35

Mark 4: 14-20

Romans 12: 3-8

# Sermon



# Hymn

*Jesus, where'er  
your people meet*

(#445 Together in Song)



*A young John  
Flynn and the  
John Flynn  
Memorial  
Church in  
Alice Springs.*

1. Jesus, where'er your people meet  
There they behold your mercy seat,  
Where'er they seek you, you are found  
And every place is hallowed ground.
2. For you, within no walls confined,  
Are present in the humble mind;  
Such ever bring you when they come,  
And, going, take you to their home.
3. Dear Shepherd, of your chosen few,  
Your former mercies here renew;  
Here, to our waiting hearts proclaim  
The sweetness of your saving name.
4. Here may we prove the power of prayer  
To strengthen faith and sweeten care,  
To teach our faint desires to rise,  
And bring all heaven before our eyes.
5. Lord, we are few, but you are near,  
Your arm can save, your ear can hear;  
O rend the heavens, come quickly down,  
And make a thousand hearts your own.

# Prayer for the Others

## God of all places

God of all places and climes,  
We are glad to thank you for our friends and  
partners in faith and vision throughout the world,  
For people with the strength of character  
To survive in difficult circumstances,  
And to live out their faith  
In joy and thanksgiving for all your gifts.



*Rev John Flynn and Skipper  
Partridge next to the Dodge sedan  
used by Skipper on patrol between  
1932 and 1937.*

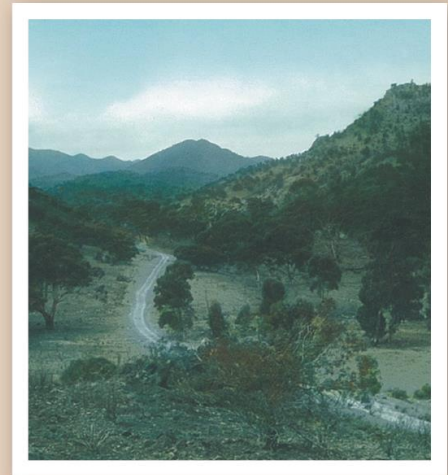
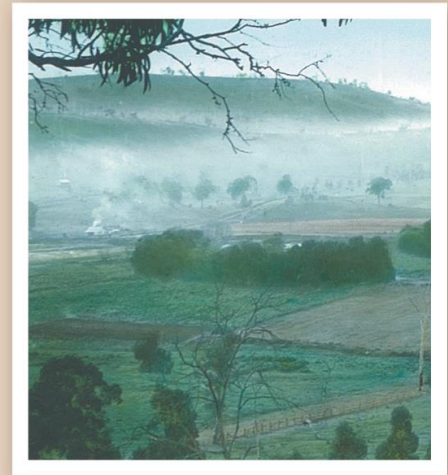
# Traditional Prayer

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we Thine unworthy servants do give Thee most humble and hearty thanks for all Thy goodness and loving kindness to us, and to all men.

We bless Thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life: but, above all, for Thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ.

And we beseech Thee, give us that due sense of all Thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we show forth Thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives; by giving up ourselves to Thy service, and by walking before Thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with Thee and the Holy Ghost be honour and glory, world without end.

Amen



*Buchan mists, Gippsland, circa 1906-07 and A road in the Flinders Rangers, 1926 (John Flynn, AIM Collection, National Library of Australia)*

# Hymn

*Taken from a selection of hymns  
in John Flynn's  
'The Bushman's Companion' (1910)*

## **Shall We Gather at the River**

1. Shall we gather at the River  
Where bright angel-feet have trod,  
With its crystal tide for ever  
Flowing from the throne of God?

### **Refrain:**

**Yes we'll gather at the river  
The beautiful, the beautiful river,  
Gather with the saints at the river  
That flows from the throne of God.**

2. Ere we reach the shining river  
Lay we every burden down;  
Grace our spirits will deliver,  
And provide a robe and crown.

3. At the smiling of the river,  
Mirror of the Saviour's face,  
Saints whom death will never sever  
Lift their songs of saving grace.

4. Soon we'll reach the shining river;  
Soon our pilgrimage will cease;  
Soon our happy hearts will quiver  
With the melody of peace.

Amen

A serene sunset scene over a calm lake. The sky is a mix of soft pinks, oranges, and blues. In the foreground, a white boat with a dark roof and railings is docked at a sandy shore. The boat has the text 'YA263N Lady Sarah' on its side. The water reflects the colors of the sky. On the right, the dark silhouette of a tree with long, thin branches hangs over the water.

Offering

Blessing &  
Benediction

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
The love of God, and the communion of  
the Holy Spirit be with you all, evermore.

**Amen.**

# Reflecting on The work of Rev John Flynn

- 1910** Bushman's Companion published
- 1911** John Flynn ordained as a minister of the Presbyterian Church
- 1912** John Flynn appointed first Superintendent of the Australian Inland Mission
- 1913** First active Bush Chaplain based in Pine Creek and Oodnadatta
- 1926** First successful wireless communication between Alice Springs and Hermannsburg
- 1929** First pedal wireless radio installed
- 1930** First Frontier News published
- 1939** Royal Flying Doctor Service established as a separate organisation
- 1949** Old Timer's nursing home established
- 1951** School of the Air is born, Alice Springs  
All AIM nursing homes registered as hospitals  
John Flynn's death and Fred McKay appointed as Superintendent of the AIM
- 1956** John Flynn Memorial Church opens, Alice Springs
- 1977** Church union, forming the Uniting Church in Australia
- 1980** Name change from Australian Inland Mission to Frontier Services
- 1994** John Flynn first featured on the twenty dollar note
- 2002** John Flynn Foundation established
- 2019** New \$20 featuring John Flynn released

THE *J*OHN *F*LYNN *F*OUNDATION



The John Flynn Foundation is the endowment fund for the Uniting Church in Australia Frontier Services. It provides for the long-term needs of isolated communities and individuals by building capital where the investment income is used to fund the work of Bush Chaplains while the capital continues to grow over time and provides a sustainable income stream into the future.

We honour the memory of Reverend John Flynn in the name of our Foundation, recognising that it is not just about a gift today but an investment in the future of rural and remote Australia, continuing his vision of a “mantle of safety” over the inland.

Our work is made possible with your kind donations. We thank you for your prayers and generosity; we couldn't do the work we do without your help.





**Frontier  
Services**  
Standing with  
people in the bush

