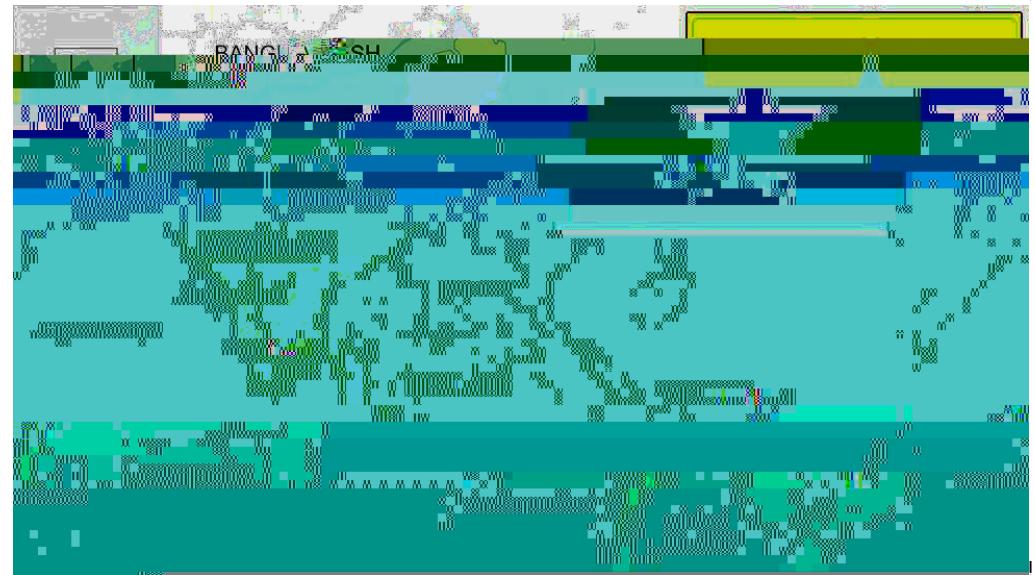




" #\$%&\$'!()*) , -./%0!
12%3\$#!4%3!5!!1\$-2'3\$#!67^8!92%)!4: 4; !



<\$=+)!/*!>/%-)%-0!

Q(?BFGK!V!9C@H!4: 4; !>N (?1<!NF1!1H<!C1!Q (HH!<A!J?RH!F!Q (HH!J?QH DDDDD!6; !

1F<C(BFG!0!9C@H!4:4;!PNF<!<NH!JA(B!(HMC?(H1!AQ!C1DDDDDDDDDDDDDDDD!6L!

"#\$%&' (\$! \$)*\$+\$%, -#! -&'. \$/!!0' 1!2)-3!2' 536%, #7%4!!8, 9)\$%-#!
\$##2\$!% !*#!+, !-' , %& ' ::!6, " !6\$!%3#!. \$6:2\$!\$' !' <%#, !\$3' 1!)\$:\$' 2#%+2#\$!1#!
9) \$%!, ##"!" !=#!%!6::!")%#+, !*&) %6:!3' , #\$\$(/!!8!<, " !2(\$#:!<#"\$. #&6%#:(!6\$>+, =!
<' &! #7. :6, 6%+', \$;!<' &!), "#&\$%6, "+, =, for sight of God's hand in what is
36.. #, +, =:!6\$!+, !?#&\$#\$!@A

The Rev'd Geoffrey Roper is a former company secretary of Council for
5' &:"!L_+\$+\$' , !EK5 L_H!!

R+, =!")%(')&!9' (!' !%3#!Y' &"!;!! O+\$!' 1 , !"#\$+=, \$!\$36::!\$%6, "!' &!#?#&!'
N!(')!9) \$%M %3#! . :6, \$! ' <! 3+\$! 3#6&% <& ' 2!6=#!% ' !
<' &! . &6+\$#!+\$!<%+ , =!<' &!:' (6:!3#6&%\$/! 6=#!!
!
D+?#!%36, >\$!%' !%3#!Y' &"!! P3#(!6&#!36. . (!!
) . , !%3#!36& . ;! 13' \$#!D' "!"#\$!%3#!Y' &"!;
1+%3!6!%#, A\$%&, =#"!:) %#!! %3#!. #' . :#!3#!36\$!-3' \$# , !6\$!3+\$!' 1 , /!
\$+, =!3+2!\$' , =\$/! \& ' 2!%3#!3#6?#, \$!!
N!\$+, =!3+2!6!\$' , =!%36%+\$!, #1;! %3#!Y' &"!; ' >\$!<' &%3;!
. :6(!')":(;!1+%3!6::(')&\$!>+:!/ 3#!\$##\$!6::!%3#!-3+."&# , !' <!#6&%3/!
!
\' &!%3#!1' &"! ' <!%3#!Y' &"!+\$!<6+3<)!: \& ' 2!%3#!. :6-#!13#&#!
6, "!"6::!3+\$!1' &>\$!%' !*#!%&) \$#"/! 3#!"1#:\$!3#!=6X#\$!
P3#!Y' &"!; ' ?#\$!9) \$%+-#!6, "!"&=3% ' , !6::!3#!"1#:#&\$! , !%3#!#6&%3M
6, "!"<+:!%3#!#6&%3!1+%3!3+\$! ' ?#/! 3#!13' !\$36. #\$/!
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%3#!3#6&%! ' <!%3#2!6::M
C(!3+\$!1' &"!%3#!3#6?#, \$!1#&#!26"?!, 6, "!"- , +\$"#\$!6::!%3#&! "#"\$/!
(!%3#!#6%3! ' <!3+\$!2')%3!! !
6::!3#!\$6&\$/! O!>+, =!\$!, ' %\$6?#"!*(!3+\$!6&2(:!
O#!- ' ::#-%\$!3#!16?#\$! ' <!%3#! -#6, M , ' &!6!16&&+ &!!
3#!\$%" &#\$!) . !3#!"#. %3\$! ' <!%3#!\$#6/! . &#\$#&?#"!*(!3+\$!\$%&# , =%3/!
!
Y#%6::!3#!#6&%3!<#6&%3#!Y' &"! "#\$. +%#!%\$. ' 1#&!+%-6, , ' %\$6?#/!
6::!13' !:+?#!+, !3#!1' &"!#?#&#!3+2/!
O#!. ' >#M6, "!"&=62#!%' !*#// P3#!Y' &"!; ' >\$! , !%3' \$#!!
O#!- ' 226, "#M! 13' !&#?#&#!3+2;!
%\$. &6, =!+, %' !*#+, =! ' , !%3' \$#!13' !3' . #!+, !3+\$! ' ?#;!
!
O#!<&) \$%&6%#\$!%3#!"#\$+=, \$!! %' !&#-\$-) #!%3#&!\$') :\$!<& ' 2!"#6%3;!
' <!%3#!, 6%' , \$!: %' !>#. !%3#2!6:+?#!+, !62+, #/!
3#!" #<#6%\$!%3#!. :6, \$! ' <!%3#!. #' . :#\$/!

6, "13' \$%"!3+2!6%K3)&-3!0')\$#/!!J#>!:6)=3\$!#6\$+:(!6, "!36\$!6!1' , "#&<)::(!
2-\$-3#?')\$!#, \$#! <3)2')&/!!Y6%#&!3#!\$. ' >#!6*')%!3#!:\$%#\$/! <!:>#!, !
L(6, 26&!!C' 2*+, =!6, "=), <&/!!L_6\$\$!" +\$. :6-#2#, %\$/!!K:' \$"!"\$-3' ' :\$/!!
K(-: , #! L' -36/!!P3#!, ##"!<' &! 2#"'+6!: . &?+\$' , /!!O#!\$. ' >#!6*')%!3#!
-' 22%2#, %' <%3#!JKL!%' !\$%, "=, !%3#!*-3!-!+, !\$' !26, (!16(\$!-!
' <>#&+, =!&#:#<!\$3#:%#&!#")-6%' , ;!6, "!6-%?#:(!\$##>+, =!%' !*&' >#&. #6-#/!!
5#!1' , "#&"!3' 1!3#!>#. \$!' , !\$2++,\$%%\$)-3!"#?6\$%6%' , /!!
!

I can't imagine life in Myanmar -!*%)!62!26&>"!*(!2(!#, -') , %#\$!1+%3!
%3#\$/!@!+, "+?")6:\$!, #=' %6%, =!6!:+%(!<6-#"!*(!2+:+ , \$!%3#&#/!!O, "=!
>, ' 1!36%3#\$/!%' '!6&#!. 6&%' <%3#!C' "(!, !13+3!1#!36?#!')&!#+, =M%3#!
C' "(!, !13+3!3#\$/) <>#&+, =!' <!', #!+\$!3#!\$) <>#&+, =!' <6:/!!!

C)% , ' 1!1#!-6, !3#.. /!!P3#!JKL!, ##"! ')&! . &6(#&\$!6, "!')&!6-%' , !%' !
-' , %!,)#!6, "=&' 1!+\$!;+#A

them all'. Let us take the hands of fellowAK3&+\$%6, \$!+, !L_(6, 26&!3' :"!
%3#2!+, !')&!3#6&%\$;!*&!#, -')&6=#"!*(!%3#+&. #&\$#?#&6, -#!6, "!. &6(!1+%3!
%3#2!%' !')&!=&6-+')\$!Y' &"!%3+\$!Z), "6(/!

!

J&6(#&

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N)&!\$') :!+\$!1 6%+, =!<' &!%3#!Y' &"!/

P3#!Y' &"!+\$!')&!3#:. !6, "!')&!\$3#:"/!

8, !3+2!'' !')&!3#6&%\$!<+, "!' (/!

5#!%&) \$!+, !3+\$!3' :(!, 62#/!

!

N)&!\$+\$%#&\$!6, "!*&' %3#&\$!+, !L_(6, 26&!!

' . #, #!"!%3#+&!-3)&-3#\$!3')&\$!6= ' M6:" (!%3#+&. &6(#&\$!6, "!. &6+\$#\$/!

<, =#\$/!P3#&#!+\$!' 2#%3+, =!6:6&2+, =:(!62+\$!+, !3#!3)26, !. \$(-3#!13#, !%
comes to dealing with strangers, the 'Other', people from other tribes, and
3' \$#! 1%3! "<<#%, %! \$>+, ! - ' :')&\$! ' &! &#:=+')\$! *#:#\$!/ J#&36. \$! +%! +\$! 6!
3' :'' ?#&! <& ' 2! ')&! #?' :)%+', 6&(! . 6\$%! *)**:+, =!) . ! +, %' ! - ', %#2. ' &6&(!
reality: we protect our 'tribe' no matter how awful the cost for others.
!

Jesus was keenly aware of our tendency to Other others. 'You have heard it said love your neighbour, but I tell you..love your enemy.' Wow! What
6! 16(!%' !-36::#, =#!3#!#6&:(!#?' :)%+', 6&(! *&6+, !!#?#, !')&!#, #2(!+\$!%' !
*#-' 2#!')&C#.' ?#"//

Christ's exhortation is deeply rooted in the Hebrew experience of
' .. &\$\$+', ;! \$%6&%+, =! +, ! a=(. %! 6, "!' #7#, "+, =! 3&')=3! 2):%+. :#! #2. +&#!
+, -:) "+, =!R' 2#/!a6-3! ' !)>, ' 1\$!3#!\$%)==:#! ' <!#+, =!3#!')%+"#&!3#!
' 3#&!/5#!6&#!-6::#"!6\$!K3&+\$!6, !\$%' !. &6-%#!3+\$!: ' ?#!' <!3#!\$%&6, =#&!\$' !
%36% 1#! 2+=3% *#!+, !6!. ' \$%+', !%' !+, ?%#! 6::!. #&#-)%' &\$;!+, -:) "+, =! 3#!
L(6, 26&!= ' ?#&, 2#, %%' !: ' ?#:!6, "!, ' %%' !36#/!

J&6(#&

!

D' "':!+=?#!) \$!3#!=&6-#!%' !1#: -' 2#!\$%&6, =#&\$!%' !: ' ?#!' 3#&\$!#?#, !6\$! 1#!
:' ?#!') &#:#?#\$!/C&+, =!. #6-#!6, "!' #&-', -+:6%+', !%' !#?#&(!- ' &, #&! ' <!3#!#6&%3!;
#. #&-6::(!+, !. :6-#\$!13#&!. #&#-)%' , !36\$!. &#?#, %%"!3#!. &6-%#-' !<!: ' ?#/02#, /!

Karen Campbell is the URC's Secretary for Global and Intercultural
L+, +\$%&#\$!

!

R#6"+, =!Z#: #-%"!?#&\$#\$!&' 2!R' 26, !\$SV!!

!

\' &6\$!, !', #!*' "(!1#!36?#!26, (!2#2*&\$!6, "!, ' %6::!3#!2#2*&\$!36?#!
%3#!\$62#!<), -%+', ;!\$' !1#!13' !6#&!26, (!6&!' , #!*' "(!+, !K3&+\$!6, "!

individually we are members one of another..!

!

d' !, ' %!.)%(')&%\$!)\$%+, !. &+, -#\$;!
+, !2' &%:\$!+, !13' 2!3#&#!\$, ' !3#: /!
53#, !3#&!*?!"#. 6&%\$:!!
3#(!&%\$) &, !%' !3#!#6&%3M
' , !36%?#&(!"6(!3#&!. :6, \$!. #&\$3/!
!

06.. (!6&!3' \$#!

' <!%3#!&#=+2#!	#-%+, =!%3#!-36, =#/!!P3#!. :=3%`' <!R' 3+, =(6!L_)\$:+2\$!36\$!

*##, !. 6&%+-):6&:(\$#?#&#!"#, +#"!-+%X#, \$3+. !6, "!"\$#: <A" #%%#&2+, 6%+', /!

!

R#<:#-%+` , !

L(6,26%(!C)%+%"#\$!\$3'1!6!:6,"!-'[,()#&"!\$)*")#"!&?6=#"!
6,"!&6,\$6->"!*(!6<#&-#!6,"!1#:A6&2#"!. '1#&/!L_6,(!. #' .:#!36?#!*##,!
#7+#"! ' &! 36?#!-3' \$#,!%' !:#6?#/!Z' 2#!6&#!1+:+,=!' !\$&?#!%3#+! &):#&\$!/N%3#&\$!1'):"!&6%3#&!\$%&>#!6!*:'1!<'&!:+*#&%(/!K'226,"!6,"!-' ,%&'!6&#!- ,%#\$%"!*&:' ' '!'<:'1\$!#6\$:(!6,"!:+#!\$!-3#6./!0!26,!13'!2+=3%36?#!:#"!
%3#!,6%+',!\$. #,"\$!"#-6"#\$!+,!96+:!6,"!#, "\$!3+\$!"6(\$!1+%3')%!#6::(!*#+,!=
\$#%<&##/!
!!
V! b+,=\$! \$%' . \$! 3#/#/! O+\$%' &(! 36\$! 3+#!%3#! *)<#&\$!/ P3+\$!

, ' !26%#&!136%26(!-' 2#!%3#&!16(/!!
5#!. &6(!%36%3+\$!'. . . &#\$#"!, 6%' , !!
1+:-' 2#!%' !), "#&\$%, "!"36%!
' %3+, =!\$36::\$#. 6&6#!%3#2!<&' 2#!%3#!:' ?#!' <|K3&+\$%!!
5#!. &6(!%36%3#!=:' *6:-' 22), +%(!!
-' , %t,)#\$!% !-6&#!6, !"36&#!1+%3!%3#!' . . &#\$#"!+, !L_(6, 26&!!
<' &!) -3!6!%+2#!16\$!%3+\$!02#, /!
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P3#!R#?"!R62!P36, =6!822#"!6#!. 6\$%D#, #&6:!Z#-&%6&(|J&#\$*(%#&6, !
K3)&-3!' <|L_(6, 26&!
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R#6"+, =!!L_6%3#1!VIS@!SF!
^' 1!6<%#&!%3#(!36"!:#%!6, !6, =#:!'
<!%3#!Y' &"!6. . #6&#"!%"!c' \$#. 3!+, !6!
"62!6, !"6+"!ID#%) . ;!6>#!%3#!-3+!"!6, "13+\$!2' %3#;&!6, "1<:##!%"!a=(. %!

%6>+, =!-')&6=#%' !#2. ' 1#&%3#2\$#:?#\$!6, "%3#!. #' . :#!13' !6&#!' . . &#\$\$/#!
and suffering. The Church dares to witness God's love, justice and peace
in the society under the military junta. "You are the light of the world. A
%' 1, !*)+;%' , !6!3+:-6, , ' %*#!3+" "#, ." (Matthew 5:14)!
!

J&6(#&

8?(!!!!!!!!!!!!!! !

0%!%2#\$;!13#, !1#!<#:#!%36%

+%!\$!6!16::;!9) \$%6!16::!

%3#, !

1+%3')%6!1' &" ;!+?(!-:+2 *\$!) . !%3#!16::/

<!%3##\$!:6) "6*:#!6+2\$!-6, !*#!6-3#?#/!!!

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N,!L' , "6(!8!\$)==#\$%"!%36%%3#!Y' &"!1' &>\$!%3&')=3!3+\$!. #'. :#M26(*#!
%3#!U\$6:\$%&6+\$#"!%3#\$#!+"#6\$!+, %' !')&!' , \$-+')\$, #\$\$!%36%1#!2+=3%6-%!!

L+=3%6!"<<##%, %!1' &."!*#. '\$\$+*:#4!U#&36. \$,!%3#\$#!-#&%6+, %#\$!1+:+, "!
)\$!' <')&!&#. ' , \$+*+:(!%' !-36, =#!')&!1' &:"!\$' !%36%%3#!. ' ' &!6&#!&#\$-)#"!
&' 2!%3#+&!"+\$%&#\$\$/!

%3#!+, %#&, 6%' , 6:!#-) 2#, +6! -' 22), +%(! 13' !6&#!\$36&+, =!%3#! -' , -#&, \$!
6, "!:<%+, =!?' +#!+, !. &6(#&!\$%\$' 2#%2#\$!<#:#:\$!+>#!. &6(#&!+\$!6::!1#!36?#/!
C) %!3' :"!, '% !3+\$!-!', #!"6(:!13#, !3+\$!+\$! ?#&!1#!1+::!2##%<&#, "\$!6, "!
- ' ::#6=) #!+, ! L(6, 26&!6=6+, !6, "1#!1+::! *#!6*:#!%' ! -#:#!&6%#!%3#!&
freedom and say: "We prayed for you."!

!
0!J&6(#&!<' &J#6-#!!
!

D' "!' <. #6-#!26(!1#!*#-' 2#!. #6-#26>#&\$!*(!
!<#"+, =!%3#!3), =&(!!
!1#!- ' 2+, =!%3#!\$%6, =#&!
!. :6, %+, =!>+, " , #\$\$!6, "!,)&+, =!. #6-#!13#&#?#&!1#!6&#/!
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5#!. &6(!*#-6)\$#!' <!)&: ' ?#<' &K%+, !!
6, "!*#-6)\$#!' <!)&%)\$%+, !6! ' ?+, =!D' "/!
0*' ?#!6::!1#!. &6(<' &6, !#, "!' !?+ :#, -#;!!
6, "!' &!. #6-#!3&')=3')%!3#!1' &:"/02#, /!
!

D' "!' <!c) \$%+-#!26(!1#!*#-' 2#!9) \$%+-#!26>#&\$!*(!
!\$36&+, =!= ' ' 1+::;
!). 3' :"+, =!%3#!&=3%\$! ' <6::! *#+, =\$:!
!\$36&+, =!') &=+=%\$!6, "!,)&+, =!9) \$%+-#!13#&#?#&!1#!6&#/!
!
5#!. &6(<' &%3#\$#!3+, =!1%3!3) 2+:+(%;!!
*#-6)\$#!' <!%3#!3' . #!%36%+\$!1%3+, !) \$!:!
6, "!*#-6)\$#!' <!)&=6%3!+, !3#!().%>2. 3! ' <= ' "!' ?#&#?+/
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: "#\$%27%" ;0;<:, 7%:>) 7">%, %5' >) "(?:(%

P3#!R#?"!d&!L+-36#!c6=#\$6&+\$!6!&#%&#"!QRK!L+, +\$%#&!

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D6:6%6, \$!F!IS;IS@ASF!

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K3&+\$%36\$!\$%() \$!<#&#!%' !:+?#!6!<#:#:<#/!Z' !6>#!(')&!%6, "!]!^#?#&6=6+, !:#%

L_6, (!6&#!%3#!&+6:\$!'
*)%<& 2!%3#2!6::!!
%3#!Y' &"!1+::!&#-) #!!
O#!1+::!>#. !=) 6&"!!
' ?#&6::!%3#!&!*', #\$:!
, ' %', #' <!%3#!&!*', #\$/!!
\$36::!*&!*& >#, /!
!
P3#!U\$6:2\$!0, !8, -:) \$+?#!Y6, =) 6=#!_#&\$+', !*6\$#"!', !%3#!D&6+!%6, \$:6%+' ,
& 2!%3#!0#*#& 1!` !STG@;!STUG!P3#!D&6+!Ea, =:6, "H!D0!J) *:+6%+', \$!
!
R#<:#-%'+ , !
!
N!%' !36?#!%3#!-#&%6+, %(!' <!%3#!U\$6:2+\$%!536%+!1') :"!*#!%' !>, ' 1!6::!%3' \$#!
%3+, =!%36%!3#!U\$6:2+\$%!6\$#\$%\$!6\$!%) %3!A! *#+, =!\$%<#:#& 2!')&!%#& ' &\$:
the poor rescued from their distress, angels rescuing God's people, the
2#2' &(!' <!%3#!1+>#"!<6+, =!%3' \$#!13' !:+?#!1%3!36%#"!*#+, =!'' ' 2#/!!
These are ideas we want to assert and rejoice in but know the world isn't
:>#!%36%!!!
!

N!%' !36?#!%3#!-#&%6+, %(!' <!c' 3, !Z1+, , #(!') &!, #1!>+\$%L+, +\$%#&!13' !36\$!
?' 1#'"!%' !#:+2+, 6%#!-3+."! . ' ?#&%(!13+3; !"#\$. +\$%#& 2#!#7-#::#, %. ' :+-\$; !+\$!
\$%::!3+=3#&!3#&#!%36, !+, !26, (!' %3#& a)& . #6, !-'), %&+\$! / P3+\$! 1') :!"
, ?' :#!%6->:+, =!%3#!\$-') &=#!' <-' :"!" 62. !3') \$#\$; !<=3%, =!%3#!#-' , ' 2+!
!

#<>%\$!' <!')&!6-%' , \$! ' , !')&\$#:?#\$!6, "!' %3#&\$!/8%l+\$!:+*#&6%' , !%' !*#!')&!6)%3#, %t-!\$#:?#/!P3+\$!2#6, \$!%" !*#!< &!' %3#&\$!6:16(\$!1' &>+, =!< &!&:#6\$#!