

## ***A Letter of Condolence***

November 18, 2020

Dear Ms. Dorothy Ogle,

It is with great sadness that we received the news that Rev. George E. Ogle (Korean name: Oh Myung-gul) passed away in Colorado on the 15th at the age of 91.

Rev. Ogle, who was commissioned to Incheon in 1954 as a mission co-worker of the United Methodist Church, has lived a life of joy and tears with the laborers according to the example of Jesus' life in solidarity with those who were alienated and suffering. He started the Incheon Urban Industrial Mission, reiterating that a true democratization cannot be realized without the guarantee of workers' human rights. His spirituality of self-poverty, self-emptying, and sacrifice inspired many people who fought alongside the oppressed at that time.

At a time when people were afraid to resist injustice and tell the truth, in 1974, at the first Thursday prayer meeting in October, he pleaded the innocence of those who were sentenced to death on the false accusations of the second People's Revolutionary Party Incident (PRPI). He prayed for them with the belief that Jesus appears through the least humble and weakest among us. In the end, on December 14, 1974, he was deported to the US by an unjust military regime, but we all remember and deeply appreciate that he struggled until the last moment to tell the truth of the PRPI case.

Rev. Ogle has shown us all a true religious figure, as he has resisted injustice, along with the poor and the suffering people. Reflecting on the present Korean Church, his life and spirituality have clearly inspired us with great wisdom and grace. We pray that God's peace and comfort will cover the bereaved family, eagerly wishing that his life journey will be shared with many people across the region and over boundaries.

In Peace,



Rev. Lee Hong-jung  
General Secretary  
National Council of Churches in Korea



Rev. Ahn Jae-wong  
Chair of the Board  
Korea Christian Democracy Foundation

