

## Cheon Il Guk Song of Praise Competition for the victorious entry into the Cheon Il Sanctum in Cheon Won Gung in 2025

Song Yong-cheon  
 August 22, 2024 at 2 PM  
 Hyo Jeong Cultural Foundation's Cultural Hall



Before the main competition, Julia H. Moon, Director of Hyo Jeong Cultural Foundation, said in her welcoming speech, "True Mother has told us that praise teams are needed to restore nations through Cheon Il Guk culture, that we should revive Christianity through praise, and that we should widely proclaim True Parents to the world. Now that True Parents have opened the Cheon Il Guk era, it is time to become one with True Parents through culture and art and go out to the world. I hope this time will be a catalyst for the Cheon Il Guk era, bringing great joy to Heavenly Parent and True Parents, and an opportunity for all Unification family members to unite."



Wonju Jeong McDevitt, Vice Chair, Cheon Mu Won, said in his encouragement speech, "Praise, by definition, means to greatly celebrate and reveal what is beautiful and excellent. With the long-awaited Entrance Ceremony of the Cheon Il Sanctum in Cheon Won Gung just 8 months away, we remember Hyo Jin nim, who testified to True Parents through music and led the best cultural mission ahead of his time. Hyo Jin nim, the most filial son among filial sons, who sang how he loves True Parents 'eternally like spring rain.' I hope this time will be an opportunity to confess and highly celebrate that we love True Parents eternally like spring rain."

Song Yong-cheon, Director General, World Mission Headquarters, encouraged in his congratulatory speech, "I express deep gratitude to the continental participants who have worked hard and gathered their hearts in a short period. I hope this occasion will be a time to offer great joy and glory to Heavenly Parent for the upcoming victorious entry into the Cheon Il Sanctum in Cheon Won Gung, and I wish for the



glory and blessing of Heavenly Parent and True Parents to be with all of you."



Afterward, a new of the Cheon Il Guk Song of Praise Competition was created for the first time in history through the fierce competition of nine teams with formidable skills. As a result, the grand prize was awarded to the "Heavenly North America Peace Starts With Me Choir," which heated up the venue by well incorporating addictive melodies and unique music.



The gold prize went to Heavenly Asia Pacific's Voices of Hyojeong (Wang Appa, Wang Emma We Thank You), the silver prize to Heavenly Korea YSP (Following True Parents), and the bronze prize to the Cheonmyeong Choir (UPA, Monarch Butterfly). Encouragement prizes were awarded to Heavenly Latin America's New Hope Garden (Your Garden), Heavenly Japan's Kosei Choir, Heavenly Europe's The New Harmony Choir (In Gratitude for our True Parents' Love), Heavenly Korea's True Love Choir (From Halla to Baekdu, From Baekdu to the Ends of the Cosmos), and Heavenly Korea's Cheongra Choir (The Lord Has Come and Hallelujah).

True Mother also awarded a special prize to Heavenly Africa (Cheon Il Guk), who couldn't participate directly and joined through video, concluding the entire event with great blessings.

Prof. Yasuko Sakada from the Holy Song Compilation Committee of Hyo Jeong Cultural Center and a judge for the competition, commented, "Beautiful original praise is a continuous moment of eternity. I



sincerely thank True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind for allowing this occasion to hold a praise competition with praise teams representing the whole world. While we are making many efforts for the development of praise culture, I thought that much support is needed for praise teams to continue their activities. Today, I feel like I've finally seen that hope." The praise competition was structured around four key themes: Resolution and determination for the victorious entry into the Cheon Il Sanctum in Cheon Won Gung, Celebration of the life achievements of the True Parents, Discovery and nurturing of new praise songs and teams for the Cheon Il Guk era, Revitalization of Cheon Il Guk praise culture and strengthening of cultural mission capabilities.

The event showcased two categories of musical entries: original praise songs and songs without copyright issues. All submissions were required to have been created after the proclamation of the Cheon Il Guk Foundation Day in 2013.

The event was themed "Songs of Victory and Resolution, Cheon Il Guk's Harmony Becoming One with True Parents," featured nine teams selected from continents worldwide.

