



MLK50 SOCIAL JUSTICE LENTEN LECTINARY

The National Civil Rights Museum, located at the historic Lorraine Motel in Memphis, TN is very pleased to offer this worship planning resource for ministers, musicians and worship planners as a part of the 50th anniversary commemoration of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination. One of the things Dr. King was doing hours before his assassination and before walking out on the balcony of room 306 was working on a sermon for the coming Sunday. The sermon was titled: "Why America May Go To Hell." Dr. King wrote in his notes, "America may go to hell if she doesn't use her wealth and vast resources to end poverty and make it possible for all of God's children to have the basic necessities of life." It is in the spirit of Dr. King, the preacher who was always able to explore the deep connections of our faith traditions to the issues of poverty, health care, quality of life, education, justice and nonviolence that we offer this resource. The Museum appreciates the leadership of the Faith Leaders Team chaired by the Rev. Dr. Alvin O'Neal Jackson and the MLK50 Social Justice Lenten Lectionary Committee chaired by Rev. Jason Lawrence Turner, Memphis and committee members: Rev. Dr. Boyer Freeman, Baltimore, MD; Rev. Briana Parker, Dallas, TX; Rev. D. Corrie Shull, Louisville, KY; Rev. Dr. Earl Trent, Washington, DC

February 18, 2018 1st Sunday of Lent

"Why We Can't Wait"

1 Chronicles 12:32; Psalm 102 12-24; John 9:4; Romans 13:11-12

Commentator:

Rev. Terri Hord Owens, General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada

Generations before we heard the phrase "get woke", the apostle Paul urged the Christians in Rome to "wake from sleep." (Romans 13:11, NRSV). "For the night is far gone," Paul reminded them, "and the day is near." (Romans 13:12, NRSV). This text is often used to exhort the church to move forward, to respond; not just to pray, but to act—now! There is a fatigue that sets in, however. Younger generations hear these words, and they are—rightly, I think—skeptical about our intent. Far too often, we speak these words, and fail to follow up with action that reflects such an awakening from sleep. Too often, we talk the talk, but are we really "woke?" We prepare and release statements, we call for prayer, but we often fail to create and execute action plans that will hold both the church and society to account to be the just and beloved community that the gospel clearly demands.

Fifty years ago, the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was cautioned by many (primarily white) clergy in Birmingham, AL, that the protest in Birmingham was "unwise and untimely." In his historic "Letter from Birmingham Jail", Dr. King declares, "I have yet to engage in a direct action campaign that was 'well-timed' in the view of those who have not suffered unduly due to the disease of segregation." Sadly, there are still Christians today who believe that the work of social justice is irrelevant to the gospel, activity in which the church has no need to be involved. Dr. King lamented the silence of too many in the church, and he was very much concerned about the declining credibility of the church among young people to be an effective force for change. 50+ years later, these are still primary concerns that the church of Jesus Christ must tackle head-on.

Today, our society continues to struggle with racial and economic injustice, and despite the call of Scripture to "wake from sleep", we must re-ignite the fire in our bellies to stand up and be, as Dr. King said, "co-workers with God." Silence will not satisfy, and inaction is not an option. Just as we must re-ignite a passion for engagement with the Biblical text and spiritual disciplines that feed and nourish our souls, we must answer the call to be "co-workers with God" as together we move forward to sure America lives into its full promise of justice and human flourishing. The gospel of Luke shares a Jesus who stands with the least, the last and the lost. As Jesus reads from the prophet Isaiah in Luke 4:18-19, he declares that "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's



favor." As Christians, this action, this work must be our response to the unconditional love of Jesus Christ for all. We can do no less. As Psalm 102 speaks, generations younger than we and those yet unborn must know that the church of Jesus Christ stands, acts and walks with them because this is the work of the Lord. All generations must know and understand that God is able, that the word and will of God as revealed through Jesus Christ compels us all to act in the name of justice, dignity and love. God is able, and we still can't wait. Now is indeed the time.

MUSIC & WORSHIP RESOURCES

Gerald Lee Ricks, Guest Lectionary Team Liturgist
Minister of Worship & Creative Arts, Brown Missionary Baptist Church, Southaven, MS

"Lightning makes no sound until it strikes."

"The conservatives who say, "Let us not move so fast," and the extremists who say, "Let us go out and whip the world," would tell you that they are as far apart as the poles. But there is a striking parallel: They accomplish nothing; for they do not reach the people who have a crying need to be free."

"A social movement that only moves people is merely a revolt. A movement that changes both people and institutions is a revolution."

"Unity has never meant uniformity."
-Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

WORSHIP PLANNING NOTES

This intergenerational Lenten and Black History Month worship experience is designed to engage African American congregations through the use of liturgy that infuses scripture, music and various art forms with readings from Dr. Martin Luther King's writing, *Why We Can't Wait*. As your worship planning teams prepare for this worship experience, team members are encouraged to navigate various letters and/or quotes from *Why We Can't Wait*, giving special attention to the call of urgency.

Creative Worship: In conjunction with your media team, begin the service with no or minimal light. There should be a gradual increase in light intensity throughout the worship experience. Begin service with the sound of an alarm clock. This could be orchestrated through the use of the media ministry or by engaging various congregants to set their cell phone alarms to a prescribed time. The sound of the alarm signifies that we must "get-up," "rise-up," "stand-up," and prepare with a sense of urgency.

Worship planners could also hire a local artist to create an original art piece inspired by the worship experience.

Children & Youth: Congregations are also encouraged to incorporate the children and youth ministry by engaging them in rehearsed choral readings and/or drama related activities.

Liturgical Dance:

- (a) Rise Up as recorded by Andra Day
- (b) Ella's Song as recorded by Sweet Honey in the Rock

Altar Focus:

Old fashioned oil lanterns; consider items that are reminiscent of time running out (Stop clocks, alarm clocks, sand timers or hour glasses).



Article I. 1. CALL TO WORSHIP

One: There is good news for those who are beaten down by systems of oppression.

Many: Now is the acceptable time. This is the day of salvation.

One: There is a Word for those who face discrimination, racial profiling, and neighborhood redlining.

Many: Now is the acceptable time. This is the day of salvation.

One: There is hope for those who are unemployed or underemployed.

Many: Now is the acceptable time. This is the day of salvation.

All: Holy Spirit, Come! Let justice roll down like water and righteousness like a mighty stream!

2. HYMN OF CELEBRATION

(a) Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

Text: Albert J. Bayly, harm. by Raymond A. Nelson; Tune: BEACH SPRING, 8 7 8 7, *Sacred Harp*

(b) Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Text: William Williams, tr. Peter Williams; Tune: CWM, 8 7 8 7 8 77, John Hughes

(c) Siyahmba (Children/Youth)

South African Folk Song

(d) Rise Up, O Men of God

Text: William Merrill; Tune FESTAL SONG 6 6 8 6

3. SONGS OF WORSHIP & PRAISE

(a) Everlasting God as recorded by Bishop William Murphy

(b) You are My Strength as recorded by Bishop William Murphy

4. PRAYER OF CELEBRATION AND CONFESSION

O God of justice, miracles, and mighty deeds, we lift up to you those who have been silenced by hardship, affliction, and injustice. Forgive us for not speaking up for the least of those among us. We confess that we have not exercised our influence and position to change things. Grant us the courage to be agents of change and instruments of justice. Empower us with the will and the desire to see your kingdom manifest on earth as it is already done in heaven. In Jesus' Name, we pray, Amen.

5. CONGREGATIONAL CHORAL RESPONSE

(a) Lift Every Voice and Sing (3rd Stanza)

Text: James W. Johnson; Tune: ANTHEM

(b) Lord, Have Mercy

Music: *Mass of St. Augustine*, Leon Roberts

(c) We Must Work

Text: Keith C. Laws, arr. by Nolan Williams Jr.

(d) Thank You for Hearing Our Prayer

Text & Music by Stephen Key



6. THE MINISTRY OF MUSIC

- (a) Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning. arr. by Andre Thomas
- (b) Rise Shine for the Light is a' Comin' arr. Roland M. Carter
- (c) Abide with Me (Choral Anthem)
- (d) Fight On as recorded by Keith Davidson
- (e) Done Made My Vow to the Lord arr. by Nolan Williams
- (f) I Can't Hold It as recorded by Byron Cage
- (g) God is Standing By as recorded by Walter Hawkins
- (h) I Don't Feel No Ways Tired as recorded by James Cleveland
- (i) Worth Fighting For as recorded by Brian Courtney Wilson
- (j) We Win as recorded by Vincent Bohanan

Article II. 7. INVITATIONAL SONG

Jesus Christ is the Way as recorded by Walter Hawkins

8. BENEDICTION

Benediction: (Unison)
Today is all we have.
We will rejoice,
we will be renewed
and we will learn from the past,
cherish today, and
welcome the future
because you have given us a powerful and sacred history.
We will teach and learn,
speak and listen,
and grow strong every day of every month. Why? Because, We Can't Wait. Amen.

Article III.

Article IV. Cites and Additional Information for Music and Material Listed

Article V.

Article VI. 1. Call to Worship Written by The Rev. Junius Dotson, General Secretary of the United Methodist Church, Nashville, TN. Used by Permission

Article VII.

Article VIII. 2. Hymns

Article IX. (a) Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

Text: Albert J. Bayly, harm. by Raymond A. Nelson; Tune: BEACH SPRING, 8 7 8 7, *Sacred Harp*



(b) Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Text: William Williams, tr. Peter Williams; Tune: CWM, 8 7 8 7 8 77, John Hughes

African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #138

(c) Siyahmba (Children/Youth)

South African Folk Song

African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #164

(d) Rise Up, O Men of God

Text: William Merrill; Tune FESTAL SONG 6 6 8 6

3. SONGS OF PRAISE & WORSHIP

All repertoire listed in this category can be easily purchased at the following:

NTIMEMUSIC.COM INC (sheet music and actual recordings)
4913 Albermarle Road
Charlotte, NC. 28205
(704) 531-8961
info@ntimemusic.com

4. PRAYER OF CELEBRATION AND CONFESSION written by The Rev. Junius Dotson, General Secretary of the United Methodist Church, Nashville, TN. Used by Permission

5. CONGREGATIONAL CHORAL RESPONSE

(a) Lift Every Voice and Sing (3rd Stanza)

Text: James W. Johnson; Tune: ANTHEM

African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #557

(b) Lord, Have Mercy

Music: *Mass of St. Augustine*, Leon Roberts

African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #655

(c) We Must Work

Text: Keith C. Laws, arr. by Nolan Williams Jr.

African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #540

(d) Thank You for Hearing Our Prayer

Text & Music by Stephen Key

GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 South Mason Avenue
Chicago, IL 60638
Phone: 1-800-442-1358
Online location: www.giamusic.com



6. THE MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning. arr. by Andre Thomas

J. W. Pepper & Sons, Inc.
2480 Industrial Boulevard
Paoli, PA 19301
Phone: 1-800-345-6296
Online location: www.jwpepper.com

Rise Shine for the Light is a' Comin' arr. Roland M. Carter

MAR-VEL Publications
P.O. Box 6082
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37401 (USA)
Online Location: www.rolandcarter.com

Abide with Me (Choral Anthem)

GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 South Mason Avenue
Chicago, IL 60638
Phone: 1-800-442-1358
Online location: www.giamusic.com

All remaining repertoire listed in this category can be easily purchased at the following:

NTIMEMUSIC.COM INC (sheet music and actual recordings)
4913 Albermarle Road
Charlotte, NC.28205
(704) 531-8961
INFO@NTIMEMUSIC.COM

Sheetmusicplus.com (scores)

Musicnotes.com (scores)

Fight On as recorded by Keith Davidson

Done Made My Vow to the Lord arr. by Nolan Williams

I Can't Hold It as recorded by Byron Cage

God is Standing By as recorded by Walter Hawkins

I Don't Feel No Ways Tired as recorded by James Cleveland

Worth Fighting For as recorded by Brian Courtney Wilson



We Win as recorded by Vincent Bohanan

Article X.177. INVITATIONAL SONG

Article XI.

Jesus Christ is the Way as recorded by Walter Hawkins

NTIMEMUSIC.COM INC (sheet music and actual recordings)
4913 Albermarle Road
Charlotte, NC.28205
(704) 531-8961
INFO@NTIMEMUSIC.COM

8. BENEDICTION

Cynthia A. Bond Hopson, Ph.D., is Assistant General Secretary of the Black College Fund and Ethnic Concerns for the United Methodist General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. Used by Permission

February 25, 2018 2nd Sunday of Lent

“True Compassion”

“True Compassion is more than flinging a coin to a beggar; it comes to see that an edifice which produces beggars needs restructuring.”

-Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr

Micah 6:6-8; Psalm 25:1-10; Luke 10:37; Romans 13:11-12

Commentator: Rabbi Micah D. Greenstein, Temple Israel, Memphis, TN

The immortal words of Micah 6:6-8 contain an all-important overlooked preposition. “It hath been told thee, O man, what is good and what the Lord doth require of thee – only to do justly, to love *chesed* (mercy/compassion/kindness), and to walk humbly **WITH** the Lord thy God.”

The prophet Micah bids us to love “mercy/compassion/kindness,” and the Hebrew word used does not advocate for a display of pity or sugar-coated emotions. *Chesed* means more than “mercy,” it means “true compassion.” *Chesed* is kindness and tangible assistance to the needy, the lonely, and the suffering. It means standing with the poor who suffer because of external events beyond their control, whether job loss, sudden illness, or lack of access to quality education.

The preposition “**WITH**” (Hebrew: EEM) is not a minor matter. Compassion in its truest measure, as I have learned from others, is not about our service **to** those on the margins, but in our willingness to see ourselves in kinship **with** them. Put differently, we can’t just be **for** others. We must stand **WITH** others. As another wise teacher put it, “Compassion is not only about taking the right stand on issues, but rather in standing in the right place – with those who have been outcast and relegated to the margins by others.” Luke 10:29-37 and The Good Samaritan are a reminder that “Being compassionate as God is compassionate” means the dismantling of barriers that exclude. The ones who are on the outside [like the Samaritan] have to be let in. As Jesus teaches, “go and do like the Samaritan did who had compassion on the man who fell among the robbers.”



When we imagine what the Creator must be feeling looking down on the most vulnerable members of our society – not only the widow, orphan and refugee – but the least, the last, and the lost economically, we understand our moral imperative as people of faith to “walk humbly with the Lord thy God” by walking with the forgotten children and common people Dr. King was consumed with remembering and helping. True compassion is not a **feeling**. It is an **action**, as the Hebrew Prophets and Luke remind us.

MUSIC & WORSHIP RESOURCES

Michelle Riley Jones, Lectionary Team Liturgist

Minister for Music and Worship, Capitol Hill Seventh-day Adventist Church, Washington, DC

*"True compassion is more than flinging a coin to a beggar;
it comes to see that an edifice which produces beggars needs restructuring."*

–Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. “Beyond Vietnam” address,
given at Riverside Baptist Church, New York, NY, on April 4, 1967

Worship Planning Notes

Worship leaders might naturally tend to develop Lenten services that are solemn and sober. After all, during this season we are focused on turning our sins over to our Savior and our Redeemer. It’s a serious matter. Some congregations still observe a schedule of fasting on certain days during Lent, especially the giving up of meat, alcohol, sweets, and other types of food. Other faith traditions do not place great emphasis on fasting, but focus on charitable deeds, especially helping those in need by providing them food and clothing. Whatever your approach, Lent offers positive opportunities for worshippers.

Consider the “soul release” that comes with focusing on having compassion on and serving others. We get the most joy and make the biggest difference when we use our God-given talents, gifts and abilities to build the church.

- **Serving allows us to discover and develop our spiritual gifts.**
1 Corinthians 12 compares the church to a human body. Just like our bodies are made of many parts serving specific functions, the church is made up of people with different skills and abilities. Alone these pieces aren’t very useful, but together we create something beautiful.
- **Serving allows us to experience miracles.**
In John 2, Jesus was at a wedding and the couple was running out of wine for its guests. He tells the servants to fill several big jars to the brim. When they served the water to the guests, it was wine! The guests never knew what happened; the servants were the ones who witnessed the miracle. The same is true for us when we serve.
- **Serving allows us to experience the joy and peace that comes from obedience.**
1 Peter 4:10-11 says, “Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms... so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.” Serving is a form of worship, a way to express gratitude for what Jesus has done for us, and to share the love and grace we’ve been given.
- **Serving helps us to be more like Jesus.**
We shift our focus off of ourselves onto others through serving. We begin to see others as Jesus sees them. And we see Jesus IN others (Matthew 25:40).
- **Serving surrounds us with other Christians who can help us follow Jesus.**
When we’re working side by side with other people, a bond inevitably forms. This was part of God’s plan for how the church is supposed to work. That’s why Hebrews 10:24-25 instructs us to “spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together... but encouraging one another.”



- **Serving increases our faith.**
As we move out of our comfort zones, God increases our faith by revealing new potential — in ourselves and in His Church. When we see what He can do when His power is at work within us, we begin looking for the doors He’s opening rather than pushing our way through the one’s He’s closed (Ephesians 3:20).
- **Serving allows us to experience God’s presence in new ways.**
Encouragement and healing go hand in hand. As we encourage others and they find healing, we’re encouraged. It’s the reason so many people who go on mission trips say they came home feeling like they got more than they gave.
- **Serving is good for your soul.**
Studies have shown that volunteering is so good for the mind and body that it can ease symptoms of stress and depression. Tapping into our gifts and passions builds self-confidence, energy, and strength. Serving others can also be the best distraction from our own worries.

1. Introit /Invocation/ Litany

Introit

- (a) Come By Here, My Lord. By Marvin V. Frye.
- (b) Let the Heaven Light Shine on Me. Arr. by Roland M. Carter

Meditation for Gathering

- (c) “To Our Divine Coach” (1 Corinthians 9:24-27). By Sherrie Dobbs Johnson

God, you cared so much about us you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, to be our coach. He showed us how to run the race of life. Thank you for Jesus. We thank you also for your Holy Manual for living an abundant, wholesome life. Let not a day by without us studying the Bible. Help us understand that winning this race is a matter of pleasing you. Thank you for our teammates in life. Help us learn from them and teach them. Make us so close to them that their tears become our tears and their joy becomes our joy. Teach us to run with truth and compassion. Teach us to run with speed, but not haste. Show us when to speed up and when to slow down. Let us trust in that second wind you give when we think we can’t make another patient gesture. When runners’ cramp sets in or we experience sprains and breaks, give us healing. Give us recovery. Give us support.

Dear Lord, when that final whistle blows and we can run no more, hoist us on your broad shoulder of love, and carry us to your home. Let the words, “Well done, my good and faithful runner,” resound in our ears. Amen.

Invocation

- (d) Listen Lord—A Prayer. By James Weldon Johnson

Listen Lord—A Prayer

O Lord, we come this morning
Knee-bent and body-bowed
Before thy throne of grace.
O Lord—this morning—Bow our hearts beneath our knees,
And our knees in the lonesome valley.
We come this morning—Like empty pitchers to a full fountain,
With no merits of our own.
O Lord—open up a new window of heaven,
And lean out far over the battlements of glory,
And listen this morning.



Litany

(e) "Nobody Told Us" By Sherrie Dobbs Johnson

One: Lord, nobody told us that the road would be easy.

Many: But we don't believe you brought us this far to leave me.

One: Lord, nobody told us headaches and heartaches wouldn't come.

Many: But we don't believe you brought us this far to leave me.

One: Lord, nobody told us we wouldn't study long, and sometimes study wrong.

Many: But we don't believe you brought us this far to leave me.

One: Lord, nobody told us we wouldn't mistake your voice for the voice of the Evil One.

Many: But we don't believe you brought us this far to leave me.

One: Lord, you told us you'd never leave us, so you sent us Jesus Christ. Through Jesus we experience your presence and your deliverance.

ALL: And so, Lord, we praise you and thank you for giving us Jesus! He righted our wrongs and showed us how to right them. We knew you didn't bring us this far to leave us. Praise the Lord! Praise Jesus Christ!

Article XII.

2. Hymn or Anthem

Hymn

(a) It Is Well with My Soul. By H. G. Spafford. Tune, (Ville Du Havre) by Philip Bliss

(b) I Must Tell Jesus. By Elisha A. Hoffman. Tune, ORWIGSBURG.

(c) Jesus, Lover of My Soul. By Charles Wesley. Tune, MARTYN, Simeon B. Marsh

Anthem

(d) Lend Thine Ear to My Prayer. By A. Archangelsky. Arr. by Peter J. Wilhousky

(e) If You Laid Bare Our Guilt. By John Foley SJ. *For SATB, with piano, string accompaniment, and flute solo*

(f) (No Greater Love Hath No Man. By John Ireland. *For SATB with organ*

(g) I Am His Child. By Moses Hogan. *SATB with piano, SSA with piano*

Article XIII.

3. Spirituals or Traditional Songs

(a) I've Been 'Buked. Traditional. Tune, I'VE BEEN BUKED, Negro spiritual, arr. Carl Haywood

(b) I Want Jesus to Walk with Me.

(c) Just a Closer Walk with Thee. African American Spiritual

(d) Standin' in the Need of Prayer. African American Spiritual

(e) I Done Done What You Told Me to Do. By Uzee Brown, Jr.



- (f) Don't You Let Nobody Turn You 'Round. Arr. by Lena I. McLin
- (g) I Know the Lord. Traditional Spiritual. Arr. By Alice Parker
- (h) He Stopped to Bless. By Edward J. Margetson
- (i) God Is Not Dead. By Margaret P. Douroux. Arr. Braxton D. Shelley
- (j) Many Are the Afflictions. by M. Roger Holland, II

Article XIV.

4. Modern Songs

- (a) I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say. By Edwin Hawkins
- (b) A Perfect Sacrifice. By V. Michael McKay
- (c) You Know My Name. By Tasha Cobbs Leonard
- (d) Jesus, You Brought Me All the Way. By Kenneth W. Louis

Article XV.

5. Offering Songs/or Instrumental

Article XVI.

- (a) There's a Bright Side Somewhere. Anonymous

Article XVII. Location:

Article XVIII. African American Heritage Hymnal. #411

Article XIX.

- (b) Taste and See. By Kenneth W. Louis

Article XX.

- (c) The Blessing of Abraham. By Donald Lawrence

Article XXI.

Article XXII. Organ Offertory

- (d) Go Down Moses. Arr. by Fela Sowande

Article XXIII.

6. Song or Instrumental for the Period of Prayer

Meter Hymn

- (a) Father, I Stretch My Hands to Thee. By Charles Wesley. Arr. by Evelyn Simpson-Curenton

Instrumental

- (b) I Need Thee Every Hour. By John Ness Beck
- (c) My Faith Looks Up to Thee. By Lowell Mason. Arr. by: Anwar Ottley
- (d) Spirit of the Living God. By Daniel Iverson
- (e) We Need Love. By Donnie McClurkin
- (f) Psalm for Lent. By Leon C. Roberts
- (g) An Evening Prayer. By C. M. Battersby. Tune, (EVENING), by Charles Gabriel



Prayer Responses

(h) A Choral Triptych: Three Prayer Responses. by Jason Max Ferdinand

Article XXIV.

7. Sermonic

Article XXV.

(a) Just as I Am. By Charles Elliott

Article XXVI.

(b) If I Can Help Somebody. By A. B. Androzzo

Article XXVII.

8. Invitational Song or Instrumental

(a) My Peace I Leave with You. by Wendell C Woods.

Article XXVIII.

9. Benediction

Article XXIX.

Article XXX. Song or Instrumental

(a) Reach Out and Touch (Somebody's Hand). By Nick Ashford and Valerie Simpson

(b) Get Up My Brother. By Shirley Caesar

Spoken

(c) So Overcome

As the Savior so taught...

Go now and Overcome.

Overcome racial hatred with love and understanding.

Overcome sexism with mutual honor and respect.

Overcome social inequities with fair and equal educational and employment opportunities.

Overcome mean-heartedness with a kind word or good deed.

Overcome war, poverty, hunger, and suffering throughout our urban streets and lands abroad, by sharing the love of Christ Jesus with your neighbor.

Go and take peace...take peace to the elderly, the imprisoned, the parentless, and the homeless. Remember all those who society tends to forget.

Let your light shine wherever darkness looms so that all God's children may be free at last.

God grant us the strength to overcome and love to conquer.

Amen.

10. Postlude

(a) For He Is King of Kings! (from Songs of Deliverance). Arr. By William Farley Smith. *For organ*

(b) We Are All One in Mission (from Augsburg Organ Library-Epiphany). By Mark Sedio. *For organ*

11. Audio Visual Suggestions

(a) Prior to the start of service, show images of global social injustice juxtaposed with images of Dr. King and other civil rights activists working to bring an end to suffering throughout the world. Consider using Yolanda Adam's "The Things We Do" as the soundtrack to the video.

(b) The Things We Do. By Robin Scoffield and Keith Thomas



Article XXXI. Cites and Additional Information for Music and Material Listed

Article XXXII.

Article XXXIII. **Worship Notes**

Article XXXIV. Excerpts from: <https://newspring.cc/articles/8-blessings-we-get-from-serving>

Article XXXV.

1. Introit /Invocation/ Litany

Introit

(a) Come By Here, My Lord. By Marvin V. Frye.

Location

African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #438

(b) Let the Heaven Light Shine on Me. Arr. by Roland M. Carter

Location:

MAR-VEL Publications

P. O. Box 6082

Chattanooga, TN 37401

Phone: 423-266-7728

Online location: www.rolandcarter.com

Meditation for Gathering

(c) "To Our Divine Coach" (1 Corinthians 9:24-27). By Sherrie Dobbs Johnson

Location:

Davis, Valerie Bridgeman and Safiyah Fosua, Eds. The Africana Worship Book—Year . Nashville, TN: Discipleship Resources, 2008. p. 33. Used with permission. Pg. 55

Invocation

(d) Listen Lord—A Prayer. By James Weldon Johnson

Location:

God's Trombones: Seven Negro Sermons in Verse. New York, NY: Penguin Group, 2008, p. 11. Used with permission.

Litany

(e) "Nobody Told Us" By Sherrie Dobbs Johnson

Location:

Davis, Valerie Bridgeman and Safiyah Fosua, Eds. The Africana Worship Book—Year A . Nashville, TN: Discipleship Resources, 2006. Pg. 122

2. Hymn or Anthem

Hymn

(a) It Is Well with My Soul. By H. G. Spafford. Tune, (Ville Du Havre) by Philip Bliss

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #377

African Methodist Episcopal Zion Hymnal. Charlotte, NC: A.M.E. Zion Publishing House, 1957. #507

Church of God in Christ. Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. Memphis, TN: Church of God in Christ Pub. Board in association with the Benson Co., 1982. #376

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. Nashville, TN: Triad Publications, 2005. #355



(b) I Must Tell Jesus. By Elisha A. Hoffman. Tune, ORWIGSBURG.

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #375

Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 1987. #267

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. #340

Church of God in Christ. Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. #74

(c) Jesus, Lover of My Soul. By Charles Wesley. Tune, MARTYN, Simeon B. Marsh

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #453

African Methodist Episcopal Zion Hymnal. #293

Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. #169

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. #64

Church of God in Christ. Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. #37

(d) Just as I Am. Text and Tune, (JUST AS I AM), by Charlotte Elliott

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #344

Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. #122

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. #167

Anthem

(e) Lend Thine Ear to My Prayer. By A. Archangelsky. Arr. by Peter J. Wilhousky

Location:

Music Mart, Inc.

3301 Carlisle Blvd. NE

Albuquerque, NM 87110

Phone: 505-889-9777

Online location: www.musicmart.com

(f) If You Laid Bare Our Guilt. By John Foley SJ. *For SATB, with piano, string accompaniment, and flute solo*

Location:

GIA Publications, Inc.

7404 South Mason Avenue

Chicago, IL 60638

Phone: 1-800-442-1358

Online location: www.giamusic.com

(g) No Greater Love Hath No Man. By John Ireland. *For SATB with organ*

Article XXXVI. Location:

Article XXXVII. Sheet Music Plus

Phone: 1-800-743-3868



Online location: www.sheetmusicplus.com

(h) I Am His Child. By Moses Hogan. *SATB with piano, SSA with piano*

Article XXXVIII. Location:

Article XXXIX.J. W. Pepper & Sons Incorporated

2480 Industrial Boulevard

Paoli, PA 19301

Phone: 1-800-345-6296

Article XL. Online location: www.jwpepper.com

Article XLI. Product # 3045515 (SATB); 3219094 (SSA)

Article XLII.

3. Spirituals or Traditional Songs

(a) I've Been 'Buked. Traditional. Tune, I'VE BEEN BUKED, Negro spiritual, arr. Carl Haywood

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #386

Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. #53

(b) I Want Jesus to Walk with Me.

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #563

African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church Hymnal. #514

Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. #263

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. #500

Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. #381

(c) Just a Closer Walk with Thee. African American Spiritual

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #455

Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. #156

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. #309

Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. #156

(d) Standin' in the Need of Prayer. African American Spiritual

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #441

African Methodist Episcopal Zion Bicentennial Hymnal. #416

Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. #216

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. #496



Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. #216

(e) I Done Done What You Told Me to Do. By Uzee Brown, Jr.

Location:

GIA Publications, Inc.
Chicago, IL 60638
Phone: 1-800-442-1358
Online location: www.giamusic.com

(f) Don't You Let Nobody Turn You 'Round. Arr. by Lena I. McLin

Location:

J. W. Pepper & Sons, Inc.
2480 Industrial Boulevard
Paoli, PA 19301
Phone: 1-800-345-6296
Online location: www.jwpepper.com

(g) I Know the Lord. Traditional Spiritual. Arr. By Alice Parker

Location:

GIA Publications, Inc.
Chicago, IL 60638
Phone: 1-800-442-1358
Online location: www.giamusic.com

(h) He Stopped to Bless. By Edward J. Margetson

Location:

GIA Publications, Inc.
Chicago, IL 60638
Phone: 1-800-442-1358
Online location: www.giamusic.com

(i) God Is Not Dead. By Margaret P. Douroux. Arr. Braxton D. Shelley

Location:

GIA Publications, Inc.
Chicago, IL 60638
Phone: 1-800-442-1358
Online location: www.giamusic.com

(j) Many Are the Afflictions. by M. Roger Holland, II

Location:

GIA Publications, Inc.
Chicago, IL 60638
Phone: 1-800-442-1358
Online location: www.giamusic.com

Article XLIII.

4. Modern Songs

(a) I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say. By Edwin Hawkins

Location:



Hawkins, Edwin. Let Us Go Into the House of the Lord. Los Angeles, CA:Century Records. 1968

(b) A Perfect Sacrifice. By V. Michael McKay

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #229

(c) You Know My Name. By Tasha Cobbs Leonard

Heart.Passion.Pursuit. New York: A Motown Gospel Release/Capitol Christian Music Group, 2017.

(d) Jesus, You Brought Me All the Way. By Kenneth W. Louis

Location:

GIA Publications, Inc.

Chicago, IL 60638

Phone: 1-800-442-1358

Online location: www.giamusic.com

Article XLIV.

5. Offering Songs/or Instrumental

Article XLV.

(d) There's a Bright Side Somewhere. Anonymous

Article XLVI. Location:

Article XLVII. African American Heritage Hymnal. #411

Article XLVIII.

(e) Taste and See. By Kenneth W. Louis

Article XLIX. Location:

Article L. African American Heritage Hymnal. #680

Article LI.

Article LII. GIA Publications, Inc.

Phone: 1-800-GIA-1358

Online location: www.giamusic.com

(f) The Blessing of Abraham. By Donald Lawrence

Article LIII. Location:

Article LIV. Donald Lawrence Presents The Tri-City Singers. Finale: Act II. Brentwood, TN: EMI Gospel, 2006.

Article LV.

Article LVI. Organ Offertory

(d) Go Down Moses. Arr. by Fela Sowande

Article LVII. Location:

Article LVIII. Lois Fyfe Music

Article LIX. 2814 Blair Blvd.

Article LX. Nashville, TN 37212

Article LXI. Online location: sales@loisfyfemusic.com

Article LXII.

6. Song or Instrumental for the Period of Prayer

Meter Hymn

(i) Father, I Stretch My Hands to Thee. By Charles Wesley. Arr. by Evelyn Simpson-Curenton

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #128



Instrumental

(j) I Need Thee Every Hour. By John Ness Beck

Location:

Beckenhorst Press
960 Old Henderson Road
Columbus, Ohio 43220
Phone: 614-451-6461
Online location: www.beckenhorstpress.com

(k) My Faith Looks Up to Thee. By Lowell Mason. Arr. by: Anwar Ottley

Location:

GIA Publications, Inc.
Chicago, IL 60638
Phone: 1-800-442-1358
Online location: www.giamusic.com

(l) Spirit of the Living God. By Daniel Iverson

Location:

Woods, Bishop Andre & Chosen. Bishop Andre Woods & Chosen. Detroit, MI: Sounds of Gospel, 2000.

(m) We Need Love. By Donnie McClurkin

Location:

McClurkin Project. The McClurkin Project. Inglewood, CA: Gospocentric, 1999.

(n) Psalm for Lent. By Leon C. Roberts

Location:

Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. #509

(o) An Evening Prayer. By C. M. Battersby. Tune, (EVENING), by Charles Gabriel

Location:

Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. #312

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. #351

Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. #136

Prayer Responses

(p) A Choral Triptych: Three Prayer Responses. by Jason Max Ferdinand

Location:

GIA Publications, Inc.
Chicago, IL 60638
Phone: 1-800-442-1358
Online location: www.giamusic.com

Article LXIII.

7. Sermonic

Article LXIV.

(c) Just as I Am. By Charles Elliott

Article LXV. Location:

Article LXVI. Adams, Yolanda and Wanda Nero Butler. Just as I Am/New Born Soul. Detroit, MI: Sounds of Gospel Records, 2006.

Article LXVII.



(d) If I Can Help Somebody. By A. B. Androzzo

Article LXVIII. Location:

Article LXIX. Jackson, Mahalia The Essential Mahalia Jackson. New York, NY: Legacy/Columbia, 2004

Article LXX.

8. Invitational Song or Instrumental

(b) My Peace I Leave with You. by Wendell C Woods.

Location:

GIA Publication

Chicago, IL 60638

Phone: 1-800-442-1358

Online location: www.giamusic.com

Article LXXI.

9. Benediction

Song or Instrumental

(a) Reach Out and Touch (Somebody's Hand). By Nick Ashford and Valerie Simpson

Location:

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. #435

Mills, Stephanie and Maya Angelou, et al. Church Songs of Soul & Inspiration. Universal City, CA: UTV Records, 2003.

(b) Get Up My Brother. By Shirley Caesar

Location:

Brunson, Milton. If Everyone Was Like Jesus. Minneapolis, MN: Liquid 8 Records/Roadshow Music, 2002.

Spoken

(c) So Overcome. By R. Bryant Braxton

10. Postlude

(a) For He Is King of Kings! (from Songs of Deliverance). Arr. By William Farley Smith. *For organ*

Location:

Alibris

1250 45th Street, Suite 100

Emeryville, CA 94608

Online location: www.alibris.com

(b) We Are All One in Mission (from Augsburg Organ Library-Epiphany). By Mark Sedio. *For organ*

Location:

Augsburg Fortress

P. O. Box 1209

Minneapolis, MN 55440-1209

Phone: 1-800-328-4648

Online location: www.augsburgfortress.org

11. Audio Visual Suggestions

(b) The Things We Do. By Robin Scoffield and Keith Thomas

Location: Adams, Yolanda. Mountain High, Valley Low. New York, NY: Elektra Entertainment Group, 1999.



March 4, 2018 3rd Sunday of Lent

“The World House”

2 Chronicles 7:1-16; Psalm 107; Matthew 21:10-14; 2 Corinthians 5:14-20

Commentator:

Rev. Willie Dwayne Francois III, Mount Zion Baptist Church, Pleasantville, NJ

In the final published manuscript of his short life, *Where Do We Go From Here?*, Martin Luther King Jr., invited America to see itself as a member of a larger family, a moral cosmopolitan community—“The World House.” He averred, “We have inherited a large house, a great “world house” in which we have to live together—black and white, Easterner and Westerner, Gentile and Jew, Catholic and Protestant, Moslem and Hindu—a family unduly separated in ideas, culture and interest, who, because we can never again live apart, must learn somehow to live with each other in peace.” The World House assaults the very foundations of systemic domination and structured exploitation. Dr. King’s transcendent vision of the World House protects the future of democracy and human civilization from contemporary guardians of global injustices and fraternities of social privilege.

Nursing a global messianic complex, America showcases theo-ethical bankruptcy on the international stage as she bows to the altar of another trinity—what Dr. King called the triple evils: racism, militarism, and materialism. The sins of empires swallow entire communities and imbalance the scales of justice against the powerless. From Ancient Egypt to Ancient Rome to Great Britain to the United States, religious leaders and religious rhetoric baptized the rise of empires pillared on the blood-infused sweat and forced labor of classes of “the othered.” A corporatization of faith, institutionalization of the sacred and hierarchizing the Holy work in service of commodifying the bodies of non-white and poor people.

The time-trapped ideologies of white hetero-patriarchal capitalism suffocate the timeless truth of unconditional human dignity. Even as social media shrinks great distances and extends our reach, doctrines of supremacy and structures of domination increasingly fracture our connection. Every day the American experiment with democracy feeds us the fatal truth that certain forms of terrorism and state-sponsored violence are acceptable: economic terrorism through poverty wages, corporate welfare and indecent housing options, political terrorism via redrawing districts and voter suppression legislation; educational terrorism based by converting public schools into prison preparatory academies and culturally biased standardized tests, judicial terrorism sentence disparities and mandatory minimums and police terrorism through unchecked killings of unarmed people of color and deportation task forces. Nearing a nuclear crisis instigated by tweets and soundbites, global leaders prove our small rooms depend on “guided missiles and misguided men.” Those same men adorn halos of the status quo above them but possess no moral compass within them.

In Matthew 21:10-14, Jesus repeals the dastardly policies of the Temple State—a system headquartered in the Temple sabotaged against the poor. Solomon's Temple, a materialization of David's dream to outdo his self-serving instinct, marks the symbolic presence of God for ancient Israel. Jesus declutters the exploitative dimensions of the Temple—the economic, religious and political center of first-century Jewish life—to hedge new space for the materially dispossessed and spiritually disinherited.

The priests, moneychangers and religious elite grossly profited on Passover, because they maintained a monopoly on issuance of “the sanctuary shekel,” the only accepted medium of exchange for Temple rituals. Charged arbitrary and unnecessary fees for “the sanctuary shekel,” the worshippers—people visiting Jerusalem from Africa, Asia, and Europe—left the Temple in life-altering debt. Jesus disrupts the exploitation and creates space for the unwelcomed.

Jesus restores God’s house to people farthest down disrupting the profiteering machinations of the religious plutocrats, ritual tycoons, and Passover financiers. With tables turned legs up and bench tops flush against the floor, Jesus welcomes the



historically prohibited—the blind and lame—into the sacred parameters of the Temple. If only for the moment depicted in this pericope, Jesus converts this house of exploitation into a house of empowerment. Jesus transforms the temple from a hideout for the unjust to a healing place for the unwelcomed. The house of prayer functions as a hideout for predators. Jesus' holy anger embodies the precursor to realizing the World House. How can we fight for racial equity in the streets when we practice gender inequality in the sanctuary? Jesus' prophetic rage invites us to declare a nonviolent war on racism, poverty, hetero-patriarchy, and war. Wherever we identify and locate God's presence—a pervasive, omnipresent reality—barriers of bigotry and narratives of power politics are contested. God's House guides the World House.

The future of the World House hinges on our collective, massive intentions to become other-centered persons instead of I-centered consumers. We scarcely imagine the existential weight our respective sparks of divinity add to our capacity to transform the public square by expanding the walls of our small rooms and inviting the other into revolutionary community. That divinity rings true in our differences. Flattening the multidimensional nature of the World House concept to human sameness and universality bleaches away the power of human differences in unity. Unity, love, and solidarity never necessitate sameness. Jesus invites the outcasts, the spiritual disinherited, and economically dispossessed into the Temple to experience the healing power of sacred presence. The World is our house in light of our differences; the world needs all of our differences for the world live into its essence.

Through unconditional love and unbridled presence, God makes room for each us. My ancestors, burdened with terror of chattel slavery and religious violence, found a way to translate their experiences of the inclusive power of God into song. In the clearings of the antebellum south, the Hush Arbors, they would find melody in the key of life: "Plenty good room, plenty good room, plenty good room in my Father's kingdom. Plenty good room, plenty good room, choose your seat and sit down."

MUSIC & WORSHIP RESOURCES

Julian Goods, Organist
Hartford Memorial Baptist Church, Detroit, MI

Worship Planning Notes

This is a service celebrating the concept of unity among people from diverse backgrounds in our quest to make the world a better and more just dwelling place. It focuses on love and thanksgiving, as we continue our quest for justice. Images or symbols of different races might be placed around the sanctuary as symbols that we are all one. An intergenerational approach will further strengthen the concept of unity. Thus where possible, one should encourage the participation of children or entire families in the service through singing, by assisting in the reading of the litany or recitation of Dr. King's "the World House" speech.

1) Litany

"A World Fellowship"

By: Julian J. Goods & Rev. Lisa M. Goods

Leader: During this Lenten Season, as people of God who continue to seek the Beloved Community turn our meditation on the legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. martyred in the fight for justice 50 years ago. We recount his countless efforts to fight issues of racism, poverty, and war; the numerous marches, speeches, and sit-ins he organized; and the many acts of hate, imprisonment, and rejection he and our elders endured that we might be where we are today. His call to work with and love people of all races, religions, and classes has helped bring peace in midst of turmoil, however we still have much work to do.

People: *Oh, that we might praise the Lord for his goodness and wonderful works to us.¹ We Thank You O Lord for your love which endures forever, even when we fail to love our neighbors as ourselves.*

¹ Psalms 107:21



Leader: We are reminded in Dr. King’s speech “The World House,” that “we are challenged to work all over the word with unshakable determination, to wipe out the last vestiges of racism.”² Like Jesus we are challenged to turn over the tables of capitalism, classism, bigotry, xenophobia, misogyny, islamophobia, and all other forms of hatred throughout the world. Let us continue to fight for justice, not only in the community in which we live, but across the globe. Let us continue to be determined as we go out into the world and never grow weary.

People: *We who have been redeemed from the hand of the enemy,³ thank you Lord for your constant guidance as we continue to run this race to bring an end to racism and hate across the world.*

Leader: Dr. King challenged us to unite with people who struggle everywhere, even as your word challenges us to be reconciled not only to you, but to one another. For how can we love you if we have no love, care, or concern for our brothers and sisters we see every day.

People: *We thank you for being a God of reconciliation. Help us O Holy God to search ourselves and root out areas in our lives that hinder full unity among your people, and*

Leader: “Let us hope that this spirit will become the order of the day. For we can no longer afford to worship the God of hate or bow before the altar of retaliation. The oceans of history are made turbulent by the ever-rising tides of hate. Our History is cluttered with the wreckage of nations and individuals who pursued this self-defeating path of hate.”⁴ The violence in our streets, the terror around the world, and the hopelessness and despair in many of children bear witness to the vestiges of our history of hate and intolerance, so let us commit to turn the tide following Dr. King’s example of love and full humanity for all God’s people.

People: *We thank you Oh Lord for your steadfast love that endures, even when we have not always shown love to all whom you created. Accept, Oh God, our humble repentance, as we “humble ourselves and pray, seek your face, and turn from our evil ways.”⁵*

Leader: As we go out into the world, we must continue to realize the fierce urgency of now. Let us continue to work for peace without ceasing, fight for justice without ceasing, and pursue love without ceasing, as we continue to build “a world-wide fellowship that lifts neighborly concern beyond one’s tribe, race, class and nation”⁶

ALL: *We thank you Lord for continuously giving us the strength to fight today’s battles and for giving us bright hope for tomorrow. As you have never cease to welcome and love us, WE WILL perpetually work to make this world ONE House where all are welcomed. Amen! Ashe!*

2) Prelude

(a) Chorale Prelude on Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier. By George Walker

(b) Komm, heiliger Geist, Herre Gott. By Dietrich Buxtehude

3) Opening Songs/ Processional/ Introit

(a) All People of God. By Don Fontana

(b) Unity. By Glorraine Moone. Arr. Dr. Daniel Mario Cason II

(c) I Was Glad. By Gordon Young

4) Hymn

² King, Jr., M.L. “The World House”

³ Psalms 107:2

⁴ King, Jr., M.L. “The World House”

⁵ 2 Chron 7:14 KJV

⁶ King, Jr., M.L. “The World House”



- (d) All Hail the Power of Jesus Name. By Edward Perronet. Tune (Diadem), by James Ellor
- (e) To God Be the Glory. By Fanny Crosby. Tune (Be The Glory), by William H. Doane
- (f) O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing. By Charles Wesley. Tune (Azmon), arr. Lowell Mason
- (g) The Church is One Foundation. By Samuel Stone. Tune (Aurelia), by Samuel Wesley
- (h) Blessed be the Tie that Binds. By John Fawcett. Tune (Dennis), Johann Nagelli

5) Anthem

- (a) I Will Give Thanks Unto Thee. By Gioacchino Rossini
- (b) The Magnificat. By Glenn Burleigh. (From Born to Die)
- (c) Cantique de Jean Racine. By Gabriel Faure
- (d) If My People Will Pray. By Jimmy Owens.

6) Spirituals or Traditional Songs

- (a) I'm Determined to Walk with Jesus. Arr. Raymond Wise
- (b) Ride on King Jesus. Arr. Hall Johnson
- (c) Don't You Let Nobody Turn You 'Round. Arr. by Lena I. McLin
- (d) He's Got the Whole World in His Hands. Arr. Margaret Bonds
- (e) Certainly Lord. Arr. Evelyn Simpson-Curenton
- (f) If Any Man be in Christ. Arr. Raymond Wise
- (g) He Calmed the Ocean. By Prof. L.S. Boswell. Tune, Kenneth Morris
- (h) If I Can Help Somebody. By Alma Androzzo

7) Modern Songs

The suggested selections below are designated for small to larger ensembles, with experienced vocalists.

- (a) Oh Give Thanks. By James Dowell
- (b) O Give Thanks. By A Jeffrey LaValley



- (c) Healing. By Richard Smallwood
- (d) We Are One. By Kim McFarland. Arr. Walt Whitman
- (e) I Need You to Survive. By David Frazier

Offertory Song or Instrumental

- (a) What Shall I Render. By Margaret Pleasant Douroux
- (b) Running Over. By Joseph Pace II

Organ Offertory

- (c) Prayer: An Offertory. By George Walker

8) Song or Instrumental for the Period of Prayer

Hymn

- (a) I Really Love the Lord. By Jimmy Dowell. Arr. by Nolan Williams, Jr.

Instrumental

- (b) Invocation in B flat. By Alexandre Guillmant
- (c) Hallelujah Anyhow. By Thomas Whitfield
- (d) Andantino: First Sonata for Organ. By Florence Price

9) Congregational Songs or Songs for Praise Teams

The following selections would be best performed by a small ensemble (e.g. a Praise Team), with a vocally suitable worship leader. The hymn singing should lend itself to congregational participation at the direction of the worship leader.

- (a) You are Good. By Israel Houghton
- (b) Bless This House. By Kurt Carr
- (c) Count Your Blessing. By Johnson Oatman Jr. Arr. Evelyn Simpson-Curenton. Tune, (Blessings)
- (d) Heal our Land. By Tom and Robin Brooks
- (e) We are Standing on Holy Ground. By Geron Davis. Arr. Nolan Williams, Jr.

10) Invitational Song or Instrumental

- (a) Tomorrow. By Carvin and Deborah Winans



(b) Just Come. By Percy Bady

(c) We Offer Christ to You. By Joel Britton. Arr. Valeria A. Foster

This song can be used as an instrumental or vocal solo selection.

11) Benediction Song

(a) God be with You. Arr. Dr. Uzee Brown

(e) Go Ye Now in Peace. By Joyce Ellers

12) Communion

(a) Communion. By Carlton Pearson

(b) The Blood Will Never Lose its Power. By Andrae Crouch

(c) Jesus Paid it All. Arr. Robert Sterling

(d) There is a Fountain. Arr. Wendell Whalum

Instrumental

(e) Communion in E minor. By Alexandre Guilmant

(f) Adoration. By Florence Price

13) Postlude

(g) We Shall Overcome. Arr. Carl Haywood

(h) Hold On. By Calvin Taylor

(i) Pièce Héroïque. By Cesar Franck

14) Audio Visual Suggestions

Place Images on the screens, around the church, or in the bulletins of people of different races and religions uniting to make the work a better place, fighting for social justice, and worshipping together. These images could be flashed as a member or members narrate Dr. King's "the World House" speech.



15) Other Recommendations

For additional worship recommendations for Sunday, March 4th 2018 please see the Cultural Resource area of this website.

Article LXXII. Cites and Additional Information for Music and Material Listed

1. Prelude

(b) Chorale Prelude on Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier. By Dietrich Buxtehude

Location:

1727 Larkin Williams Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63026
www.morningstarmusic.com

(c) Komm, heiliger Geist, Herre Gott. By George Walker

Location:

www.imslp.org

2. Opening Song/ Processional/ Introit

(i) All People of God. By Don Fontana

Location:

www.fredbock.com

(j) Unity. By Glorraine Moone. Arr. Dr. Daniel Mario Cason II

African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #338

3. Hymn

Hymns

(a) All Hail the Power of Jesus Name. Text by Edward Perronet. Music by James Ellor, Tune, (Diadem)

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #293

Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. Chicago, IL:
G.I.A. Publications, 2012. #342

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. Nashville, TN: Triad
Publications, 2001. #5

(b) To God Be The Glory. By Fanny Crosby. Tune (Be The Glory), by William H. Doane

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #157

Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. Chicago, IL:
G.I.A. Publications, 2012. #442



The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. Nashville, TN: Triad Publications, 2001. #17

- (c) O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing. By Charles Wesley. Tune (Azmon), arr. Lowell Mason
Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #184

Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. Chicago, IL:
G.I.A. Publications, 2012. #438

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. Nashville, TN: Triad Publications,
2001. #23

- (d) The Church is One Foundation. By Samuel Stone. Tune (Aurelia), by Samuel Wesley
Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #337

Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. Chicago, IL:
G.I.A. Publications, 2012. #297

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. Nashville, TN: Triad
Publications, 2001. #17

- (e) Blessed be the Tie that Binds. By John Fawcett. Tune (Dennis), Johann Nagelli
Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #341

Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. Chicago, IL:
G.I.A. Publications, 2012. #605

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. Nashville, TN: Triad
Publications, 2001. #298

4. Anthems

- (a) I Will Give Thanks Unto Thee. By Gioacchio Rossini

Location:

NTIMEMUSIC.com

4913 Albemarle Road

Charlotte, NC 28205

(p) 704.531.8961

www.ntimemusic.com



(b) The Magnificat. By Glenn Burleigh. (From Born to Die)

Location:

J. W. Pepper & Sons

Incorporated 2480 Industrial

Boulevard

Paoli, PA 19301

Phone: 1-800-345-6296

www.jwpepper.com

(c) Cantique de Jean Racine. By Gabriel Faure

Location:

J. W. Pepper & Sons

Incorporated 2480 Industrial

Boulevard

Paoli, PA 19301

Phone: 1-800-345-6296

www.jwpepper.com

(d) If My People. By Jimmy Owens

Location:

Sheet Music Plus

1300 64th Street

Emeryville, Ca 94608

www.sheetmusicplus.com

5. Spirituals or Traditional Songs

(a) I'm Determined to Walk with Jesus. Arr. Raymond Wise

Location:

www.Raiseonline.com

(b) Ride on King Jesus. Arr. Hall Johnson

Location:

J. W. Pepper & Sons Incorporated

Phone: 1-800-345-6296

Online location: www.jwpepper.com

(c) Don't You Let Nobody Turn You 'Round. Arr. by Lena I. McLin

Location:

J. W. Pepper & Sons Incorporated

Phone: 1-800-345-6296

Online location: www.jwpepper.com

(d) He's Got the Whole World in His Hands. Arr. Margaret Bonds

Location:

J. W. Pepper & Sons Incorporated

Phone: 1-800-345-6296



Online location: www.jwpepper.com

(e) Certainly Lord. Arr. Evelyn Simpson-Curenton

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #678

(f) If Any Man be in Christ. Arr. Raymond Wise

Location:

www.Raiseonline.com

(g) He Calmed the Ocean. By. Prof. L.S. Boswell. Tune, Kenneth Morris

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #223

(h) If I Can Help Somebody. By Alma Androzzo

Location:

Sheet Music Plus

1300 64th Street

Emeryville, Ca 94608

www.sheetmusicplus.com

6. Modern Songs

(a) Oh Give Thanks. By James Dowell

Location:

Hold Back the Night with Rev. Charles Nicks and the St. James Baptist Church Adult Choir. Detroit: Sounds of Gospel Records, 1990

(b) Healing. By Richard Smallwood

Location:

www.musicnotes.com

(c) We Are One. By Kim McFarland. Arr. Walt Whitman

Location:

We Are One with Walt Whitman and the Soul Children of Chicago. I Am Records, 1999.

(d) I Need You to Survive. By David Frazier

Location:

www.musicnotes.com

7. Offertory Song or Instrumental

(a) What Shall I Render. By Margaret Pleasant Douroux

African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #389



(b) Running Over. By Joseph Pace II

Location:

Sheet Music Plus

1300 64th Street

Emeryville, Ca 94608

www.sheetmusicplus.com

Organ Offertory

(c) Prayer: An Offertory. By George Walker

Location:

J. W. Pepper & Sons Incorporated

Phone: 1-800-345-6296

Online location: www.jwpepper.com

8. Song or Instrumental for the Period of Prayer

Hymn

(a) I Really Love the Lord. By Jimmy Dowell. Arr. by Nolan Williams, Jr.

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #577

Instrumental

(b) Invocation in B flat. By Alexandre Guillmant

Location:

www.imslp.org

(c) Hallelujah Anyhow. By Thomas Whitfield

Location:

Hallelujah Anyhow with Minister Thomas A. Whitfield and the Thomas Whitfield Company. Detroit: Sounds of Gospel Records, 1983

(d) Andantino: First Sonata for Organ. By Florence Price

Location:

Sheet Music Plus

1300 64th Street

Emeryville, Ca 94608

www.sheetmusicplus.com

9. Congregational Songs or Songs for Praise Teams

(a) You are Good. By Israel Houghton

Location:

www.musicnotes.com



(b) Bless This House. By Kurt Carr

Location:

NTIME MUSIC COMPANY Phone: 704-531-8961

Online location: www.ntimemusic.com

(c) Count Your Blessing. By Johnson Oatman Jr. Arr. Evelyn Simpson-Curenton. Tune, (Blessings)

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #533

(d) Heal our Land. By Tom and Robin Brooks

Location:

The Celebration Hymnal: Songs and Hymns for Worship. Brentwood, TN: Integrity Music, 1997. #800

(e) We are Standing on Holy Ground. By Geron Davis. Arr. Nolan Williams, Jr.

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #183

10. Invitational Song or Instrumental

(a) Tomorrow. By Carvin and Deborah Winans

Location:

www.musicnotes.com

(b) Just Come. By Percy Bady

Location:

God's Got It with Joe Pace and the Colorado Mass Choir. New York: Verity Records, 1999.

(c) We Offer Christ to You. By Joel Britton. Arr. Valeria A. Foster

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #355

11. Benediction Songs

(a) God be with You. Arr. Dr. Uzee Brown

Location:

GIA Publications, Inc.

7404 South Mason Avenue

Chicago, IL 60638

www.Giamusic.com

(b) Go Ye Now in Peace. By Joyce Ellers

Location:

Sheet Music Plus



1300 64th Street
Emeryville, Ca 94608
www.sheetmusicplus.com

12. Communion

(a) Communion. By Carlton Pearson
Azusa Praise with Bishop Carlton Pearson. New York: Atlantic Records, 2000.

(b) The Blood Will Never Lose is Power. By Andrae Crouch
African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #256

(c) Jesus Paid it All. Arr. Robert Sterling
Location:
Sheet Music Plus
1300 64th Street
Emeryville, Ca 94608
www.sheetmusicplus.com

(d) There is a Fountain. Arr. Wendell Whalum
Location:
GIA Publications, Inc.
7404 South Mason Avenue
Chicago, IL 60638
www.Giamusic.com

Instrumental

(e) Communion. By Alexandre Guilmant
Location:
www.imslp.com

(f) Adoration. By Florence Price
Location:
GIA Publications, Inc.
7404 South Mason Avenue
Chicago, IL 60638
www.Giamusic.com

13. Postlude

(a) We Shall Overcome. Arr. Carl Haywood
Location:
GIA Publications, Inc.
7404 South Mason Avenue
Chicago, IL 60638
www.Giamusic.com



(b) Hold On. By Calvin Taylor

Location:

<http://www.calvintaylormusic.org>

(c) Pièce Héroïque. By Cesar Franck

Location:

www.imslp.org

14. Other Resources

King, Martin L., Jr. "the World House." Speech. Newcastle University, Tyne, England, 14 Nov. 1967.

March 11, 2018 4th Sunday of Lent

"The Drum Major Instinct"

Exodus 10:1-3; Psalm 55:16-19 ; Mark 10:35-45; Philippians 2:5-11

Commentator(s):

Dr. James C. Perkins, President of The Progressive National Baptist Convention

The human spirit has been designed by God in such a way that we experience our greatest sense of fulfillment when we're engaged in serving Him by serving others.

In a world where narcissism and self-centeredness has become the order of the day, we have made ourselves so much the focal point of everything that even in His own world, God has a hard time getting credit for the great things He has done. We have marginalized God to the circumference of our lives and we have made ourselves the egoistic center.

Our world has become saturated with a celebrity culture. Far too many people are busy trying to make a name for themselves. We want to be "the man". We want to be a "diva." We want to be recognized more for who we are than for the service we render.

Dr. King told us in his sermon entitled "The Drum Major Instinct" that the urge to be recognized, the urge to distinguish ourselves, the urge to strive to be great is not in and of itself an improper impulse. It is the motive that compels us to strive for recognition that makes the difference.

The mother of James and John wanted them to occupy seats of position and authority just so they could be honored and envied by others. Jesus had to let them know that greatness is achieved not by the seat you occupy, but by the service you render.

Jesus Himself demonstrated this principle by committing His life in service to others. Though He was God incarnate and counted it not robbery to be equal to God, Paul says He chose to lay aside His divine title and took on the form of a servant.



Like Dr. King, the people we know that we regard as great are people who found a cause and committed themselves to live for it. They saw a wrong and gave their lives to try to right it. They saw injustice and lost themselves in trying to make this world a just place; a place where people are not ostracized or oppressed because of their race, gender, ethnicity, or religion.

Paul says it is our service to others that is honored by God. Rather than make a name for ourselves, God gives us a name. Because Jesus was obedient even unto the cross, God gave Him a name that is above every name; that at the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Rev. Dr. Jason Curry, Dean of Chapel, Fisk University, Nashville, TN

The Lenten season is a time in which we prepare to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ on Easter morning. Beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending on Resurrection Sunday, Lent is indeed a sacred period of our liturgical calendar in which our heads (e.g., a reverent understanding of the theological significance of Jesus' resurrection) our hearts (e.g., our inner yearning to repent so that we might be on one accord with God) and our hands (e.g., engaging in the rituals of fasting and praying to strengthen our relationship with God) work in spiritual and existential unison throughout a forty-day period. Lent is a time in which we embrace humility (see Exodus 10:3) and servanthood (see Mark 10:43 and Philippians 2:7) as hallmarks of the Christian way of life. It is a time in which we strive to curtail our "fleshly" or natural impulse to both exemplify and embrace what Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. referred to as the distorted nature of the "Drum Major Instinct."

To be sure, we, as human beings, have an innate need, perhaps and insatiable desire, to be first, significant or recognized by our peers in society. In short, we are unable to escape the universal pull of the Drum Major Instinct. However, the negative attributes associated with a distorted understanding of the Drum Major Instinct continue to negatively impact institutions throughout our world and the people with them. For example, our human need to be first, even at the expense of others in our society, is expressed through legislation which lowers taxes for the few who are wealthy while it increases the national deficit for the masses which will be paid by our children and possibly our children's children. A warped understanding of the Drum Major Instinct seems to permanently limit Latino immigrants to a second-class citizenship as racist and fascist elements our society attempt to gain influence in a nation that was largely built on immigrant labor. A twisted notion of the Drum Major Instinct seeks to declare that Black Lives do not matter in this society, and it superficially highlights the apparent needs of others as if discussion, dissent and disagreement should not exist in a thriving democracy. Indeed, a twisted understanding of the Drum Major Instinct continues to seek profits over people, hegemony over humility, domination over democracy and contempt over collaboration. This misrepresentation of a healthy Drum Major Instinct is a wholesale rejection of Dr. King's vision of the beloved community, and it is at odds with Jesus' understanding of the building of the Kingdom "on earth as it is in heaven (see Matthew 6:10)."

During this Lenten season and throughout this liturgical year, God is continuing to call priestly and prophetic leaders promote a positive version of the Drum Major Instinct that is in accord with the teachings of our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ. If we must entertain this inherent and universal desire to be first, to be significant and to be recognized, we should strive to be the first to love, identified as significant because of our generosity toward all of humanity and recognized for our servanthood toward all people throughout the world. Indeed, it is the moral compass held by the leader (see Psalm 55:16-19) who embraces the Drum Major Instinct that will chart a humane, loving, healthy and just course for those who are truly seeking to lead a life that is both pleasing and acceptable in God's sight.



Dr. Leo H. Davis, Jr., DMA, Lectionary Team Liturgist
Minister of Worship, Mississippi Blvd. Christian Church, Memphis, TN
Founder, No Gimmicks Church Music Consulting

Worship Planning Notes

This day, we remember the profound leadership and vision of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This day we reflect on ways we can be the Drum Majors of today to bring about systematic change in our families, churches, and communities. Mark 10:44 KJV declares, "Whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all." If we are going to be known for our leadership and influence, we must first become servants. This worship service should focus on the freedom we have in Christ that allowed Martin Luther King, Jr. to become one of the most influential leaders of our time. We should encourage children, men and women today to become Drum Majors of Justice, Freedom, and Leadership.

Ask your congregants to invite persons who have opposite views than themselves to the Martin Luther King Jr. worship service at your church. During the worship service provide the space for prayers of forgiveness and reconciliation. Assign ministers and trained counselors to be at the altar for further prayer and guidance after the moment of prayer. At the conclusion of the service, have worshipers write down the name of their worst enemy. Collect all the responses as worshipers leave and place them in a garbage bag. This will symbolize forgiveness in word and deed.

After your day of worship and celebration, go out into your city. Find a homeless shelter, HIV/Aids Clinic, Food Bank, city mission, or Habitat for Humanity Project and participate in a day of service. Consider asking other congregations that are of different denominations to participate with you. This will infuse unity and community beyond the four walls of your church and denomination.

Ask painters (visual artists), poets, singers, musicians, dancers, and actors to create a piece that embodies freedom, love, community, and action. Encourage them to be creative within the sacred space of your church. There should be minimum guidelines for this suggestion. Allow the creativity that is within each individual to be reflected in his or her work. All participants, except painters, should keep their presentations between 3–5 minutes. Arts presentations should also be presented as a post celebration to your MLK Worship Service. Consider using your fellowship hall, community center, or family life center for this idea, as well as other frequently trafficked areas of your church.

Litany

Faith and Community

Leader: This day we celebrate our faith, heritage, culture, and community.

Congregation: Let us rejoice and be exceedingly glad.

Leader: This day, we remember the faith that sustained Martin, the heritage that emboldened him to



make radical decisions for a movement, the culture that was enriched by his words, actions, and leadership, and the community that inspired many leaders after him like President Barak Obama.

Congregation: Let us rejoice and be exceedingly glad.

Leader: So we remember our past, we stand in the present, and we envision our bright future.

Congregation: Let us rejoice and be exceedingly glad.

Unison: We have come too far to turn back now.

1. Hymn

- (a) Nothing Between. By Charles A. Tindley. Arr. by Don Peterman
- (b) More about Jesus. By Eliza E. Hewitt. Tune, (SWEENEY, LM), by John R. Sweeney
- (c) Leave It There. By Charles A. Tindley
- (d) This Is My Father's World. By Maltbie D. Babcock. Tune, (TERRA BEATA, SMD), by Franklin Sheppard

2. Spirituals or Traditional Songs

- (a) Walk Together, Children. Spiritual
- (b) The Lord Is Blessing Me Right Now. Traditional
- (c) All My Help Comes from the Lord. By Cleophus Robinson
- (d) He's So Freely Passing Out Blessings. By Damian Price

3. Worship through Dance

- (a)
- (b) (a) A Change Is Gonna Come. By Sam Cooke
- (c)
- (d) (b) Others. By Meleasa Houghton
- (e)
- (f) (c) Released. By Donald Lawrence

(g)

5. Anthems

- (a) He Shall Feed His Flock. By James Cleveland
- (b) Day and Night Praise. By Margaret Pleasant Douroux

6. Modern Songs

- (a) Awesome. By Charles Jenkins



(b) After This. By Eric Davis and James Hairston

(c) Give Me. By Kirk Franklin

7. Offertory Song or Instrumental

(a) Give. By Donald Lawrence

(b) Release My Praise. By Eric Reed

(c) Crown Him Lord of All. By Patrick Love

(d) My Jesus, I Love Thee. By William R. Featherston

8. Song or Instrumental for the Period of Prayer

(a) I Am Thine. By Fanny J. Crosby

(b) Take It to the Lord in Prayer. By Nolan Williams Jr.

(c) Praying Spirit. By Elbernita Clark

(d) I Need You to Survive. By Hezekiah Walker

9. Sermonic Selection

(a) Step Aside. By Ronnie Garrett

(b) God Is Able. By Oscar Williams

(c) Stand. By Donnie McClurkin

(d) Yes, God Is Real. By Kenneth Morris

10. Invitational Song or Instrumental

(a) Give Me a Clean Heart. By Margaret P. Douroux

(b) Lord I Want to Be a Christian. Negro Spiritual

(c) I Surrender All. By Judson W. Van De Venter

(d) We Offer Christ. By Joel Britton

11. Benediction Song or Instrumental

(a) No More Drama. By Samuel Harris and Terry Lewis

(b) Love. By Kirk Franklin

(c) Till We Gather Again. By Stephen Key



(a) Love Train. By Kenny Gamble and Leon Huff

(h) Cites and Additional Information for Music and Material Listed

1. Faith and Community by Charles B. Cotton, Jr.

2. Hymn

(a) Nothing Between. By Charles A. Tindley. Arr. by Don Peterman

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #397

African Methodist Episcopal Church. African Methodist Episcopal Church Bicentennial Hymnal. Nashville, TN: African Methodist Episcopal Church, 1981 #451

National Baptist Publishing Board. The New National Baptist Hymnal. Nashville, TN:

Total Praise. Chicago, IL/Nashville, TN: GIA Publications, Inc./Sunday School Publishing Board, 2011. #394

Church of God in Christ. Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. Memphis, TN: Church of God in Christ Pub. Board in association with the Benson Co., 1982. #292

(b) More about Jesus. By Eliza E. Hewitt. Tune, (SWEENEY, LM), by John R. Sweeney

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #565

African Methodist Episcopal Church Bicentennial Hymnal. #210

The New National Baptist Hymnal. #278

Total Praise. #549

Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. #361

(c) Leave It There. By Charles A. Tindley

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #420

African Methodist Episcopal Church Bicentennial Hymnal. #427

The New National Baptist Hymnal. #216

Total Praise. #427

Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. #280

(d) This Is My Father's World. By Maltbie D. Babcock. Tune, (TERRA BEATA, SMD), by Franklin



Sheppard

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #149

African Methodist Episcopal Church Bicentennial Hymnal. #47

The New National Baptist Hymnal. #34

Total Praise. #140

Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. #49

3. Spirituals or Traditional Songs

(a) Walk Together, Children

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #541

Total Praise. #536

(b) The Lord Is Blessing Me Right Now. Traditional

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #501

Total Praise. #506

(c) All My Help Comes from the Lord. By Cleophus Robinson

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #370

Total Praise. #387

(d) He's So Freely Passing Out Blessings. By Damian Price

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #372

4. Worship through Dance

(a) A Change Is Gonna Come. By Sam Cooke

Location:

Ledet, Joshua. A Change Is Gonna Come. Los Angeles, CA: 19 Recordings, 2012.

(b) Others. By Meleasa Houghton

Location:

Houghton, Israel. Love God, Love People. Mobile, AL: Integrity, 2010.

(c) Released. By Donald Lawrence



Location:

Winston, Bill. Bill Winston Presents Living Word "Released." Chicago, IL: Source Media, 2012.

5. Anthems

(a) He Shall Feed His Flock. By James Cleveland

Location:

Cleveland, James and the Southern California Community Choir. It's a New Day. Newark, NJ: Savoy, 2007.

(b) Day and Night Praise. By Margaret Pleasant Douroux

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #115

6. Modern Songs

(a) Awesome. By Charles Jenkins

Location:

Jenkins, Charles & Fellowship Chicago. The Best of Both Worlds. Inspired People Music, 2012.

(b) After This. By Eric Davis and James Hairston

Location:

Hairston, James & Youthful Praise: After This. Nashville, TN: Light Records, 2012.

(c) Give Me. By Kirk Franklin

Location:

Hello Fear. New York, NY: Verity Gospel, 2011.

7. Offertory Song or Instrumental

(a) Give. By Donald Lawrence

Location:

Winston, Bill. Bill Winston Presents Living Word "Released." Chicago, IL: Source Media, 2012.

(b) Release My Praise. By Eric Reed

Location:

The Park Ministries. One Thing I Desire. New York, NY: Koch, 2006.

(c) Crown Him Lord of All. By Patrick Love

Location:

The Park Ministries. One Thing I Desire. New York, NY: Koch, 2006.

(d) My Jesus, I Love Thee. By William R. Featherston



Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #574

African Methodist Episcopal Church Bicentennial Hymnal. #457

The New National Baptist Hymnal. #39

Total Praise. #578

Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. #335

8. Song or Instrumental for the Period of Prayer

(a) I Am Thine. By Fanny J. Crosby

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #387

African Methodist Episcopal Church Bicentennial Hymnal. #283

The New National Baptist Hymnal. #329

Total Praise. #397

Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. #380

(b) Take It to the Lord in Prayer. By Nolan Williams Jr.

Location:

inSpiration. Washington, DC: NEWorks Productions, 2008.

(c) A Praying Spirit. By Elbernitia Clark

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #458

Total Praise. #452

Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. #340

(d) I Need You to Survive. By Hezekiah Walker

Location:

Total Praise. #333

9. Sermonic Selection

(a) Step Aside. By Ronnie Garrett

Location:



Perry, Tyler. Tyler Perry's Daddy's Little Girls. New York, NY: Atlantic, 2007.

(b) God Is Able. By Oscar Williams

Location:

Leavett, Joe & St. Stephen Temple Choir. God Is Able. Middleburg, FL: Emtro, 2009.

(c) Stand. By Donnie McClurkin

Location:

Donnie McClurkin. Nashville, TN: Warner, 1996.

(d) Yes, God is Real. By Kenneth Morris

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #162

African Methodist Episcopal Church Bicentennial Hymnal. #361

The New National Baptist Hymnal. #249

Total Praise. #158

Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. #128

10. Invitational Song or Instrumental

(a) Give Me a Clean Heart. By Margaret P. Douroux

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #461

The New National Baptist Hymnal. #349

Total Praise. #467

(b) Lord I Want to Be a Christian. Negro Spiritual

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #463

African Methodist Episcopal Church Bicentennial Hymnal. #282

The New National Baptist Hymnal. #490

Total Praise. #466

Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. #277



(c) I Surrender All. By Judson W. Van De Venter

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #396

African Methodist Episcopal Church Bicentennial Hymnal. #251

The New National Baptist Hymnal. #227

Total Praise. #402

Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. #319

(d) We Offer Christ. By Joel Britton

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #355

Total Praise. #350

11. Benediction Song or Instrumental

(a) No More Drama. By Samuel Harris and Terry Lewis

Location:

Ledet, Joshua. No More Drama. Los Angeles, CA: 19 Recordings, 2012.

(b) Love. By Kirk Franklin

Location:

God's Property From Kirk Franklin's Nu Nation. Inglewood, CA: Sony Legacy, 1997.

(c) Till We Gather Again. By Stephen Key

Location:

Total Praise. #576

(d) Love Train. By Kenny Gamble and Leon Huff

Location:

The O'Jays. The Ultimate O'Jays. New York, NY: Sony, 2001.

March 18, 2018
5th Sunday of Lent



“Imprisoned Truth: Letter From A Birmingham Jail”

Isaiah 59:14-16; Psalm 142; Mark 6:14-29; Philippians 1:12-18

Commentator:

Rev. Dr. Frank A. Thomas, Nettie Sweeney and Hugh Th. Miller Professor of Homiletics and Director of the Academy of Preaching and Celebration at Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Imprisoned Truth: Letter from a Birmingham Jail

In April, 1963 the Southern Leadership Conference (SCLC) targeted Birmingham, Alabama for a nonviolent direct action campaign to eradicate segregation laws. The strategy was to fill the city jail cells until their demands were heard. City attorneys obtained a federal injunction prohibiting King and protesters from demonstrating. SCLC had to abandon the march or violate federal court orders. King decided it was necessary to violate the injunction. He would lead a march and submit to arrest. On Good Friday King protested, was arrested and taken to jail. On the morning of the 13th, the Birmingham News released an open letter signed by eight white clergy suggesting King and SCLC were wrong. King’s “Letter from a Birmingham Jail” was a direct response to the clergymen’s statement. The key point is that King volunteered for imprisonment to stand up against unjust laws for truth. Sometimes truth makes the choice to be imprisoned to stand up for what is right. After eight days in jail, King accepted bail from jail after standing for the truth.

In Philippians 1:12-18, Paul is imprisoned for preaching and teaching the gospel of Jesus Christ. Paul said that being in prison advanced the gospel. First, the entire Praetorian Guard knew that he was in prison for Christ (vs. 13). Secondly, Paul said because he was in prison, more brothers and sisters had to speak more boldly (vs. 14). Paul voluntarily preached the gospel knowing he would be imprisoned. He rejoiced that the gospel was preached and he was confident that he would be released based upon the prayers of the church and the help of Jesus Christ (vs. 18-19). The good news is that God vindicates those imprisoned for truth.

The only question is what will we do for truth? Will we stand up for what is right on our jobs, in our family, church, government? Will we make the choice to be imprisoned, to go it alone, for truth? Even if it means persecution, will we stand for right in Jesus Christ? We can rejoice because the gospel will be preached. Through the prayers of the church and the help of Jesus, we will be vindicated. Don’t forget that we win in the end. God will stand up for the gospel truth in your life.

MUSIC & WORSHIP RESOURCES

**Michelle Riley Jones, Lectionary Team Liturgist
Minister for Music and Worship, Capitol Hill Seventh-day Adventist Church, Washington, DC**

*“We will win our freedom because the sacred heritage
of our nation and the eternal will of God
are embodied in our echoing demands.”*
--Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. “Letter From a Birmingham Jail,



published in *The Atlantic*, August 1963

Worship Planning Notes

Jesus supped and interacted with those charged with crimes. Even the thief on the cross was given salvation because he repented. As Christians, we cannot promise that freedom from incarceration will be achieved because of an individual's desire to be more like Christ, but we can show those who are incarcerated that Jesus' love and redemptive power is available to them.

Many, while not physically incarcerated, suffer from incarceration of bad habits. Our aim in this service is to point people to Christ to break free from any chains binding their "Yes" to God's will for their lives.

Our living examples of love and caring interaction can serve to show them the way to Christ and serve as an anti-incarceration method.

10. Introit /Invocation/ Litany

Song for Gathering

(a) We Are Called. By David Haas

Meditation for Gathering

(b) King's Light. By Michelle Riley Jones, with quote by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. from the speech "Strength to Love," (1963).

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that."
For darkness cannot abide with light.
Walk towards the Light my friends—King's LIGHT.
For his light, our light, is Jesus Christ...
the Author and Perfector of our Faith (Heb. 12:2);
our Hope (1 Tim. 1:1);
our Deliverer (Rom. 11:26);
our example, the Faithful and True Witness (Rev. 1:5);
the Mighty God (Isa. 9:6);
our Advocate (1 John 2:1);
the Light of the world (John 8:12);
the KING of [King] (Rev. 19:16);
Arise! Shine! Our Light has come!

Invocation

(c) Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Part A: Invocation. (Based on Revelation 2:7) By Michelle Riley Jones

In these beginning hours of our worship, we turn to you—away from our accusers and the judgment of the skeptics who question if God can indeed change lives. We hear this pronouncement from the Lord: "Hear ye, hear ye! To those who overcome, I will give you the right to eat from the tree of life. You will join Me in the paradise of our God" (Rev. 2:7). Accept



our worship today, O God. For it is only in your presence that we will experience your power to save and to redeem. Let us receive the presence of our Almighty Redeemer. Amen.

Litany

(d) **No More Chains Holding Me.** By Michelle Riley Jones **Called To Be Free.** By Michelle Riley Jones

Leader:

We are called to be Christ's disciples. Christ has anointed us with His Spirit. Christ has chosen us to preach the message of good news to the poor. Christ has sent us to announce pardon to prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind, to set the burdened and battered free, and to announce, "This is God's year to act!" (Luke 4:18-19).

Congregation:

God, bringeth out those which are bound with chains (Psalm 68:6). And now, behold, God has loosed us this day from the chains which were upon our hands (Jeremiah 40:4).

Leader:

Chains of selfishness, hatred, and envy. Chains of intemperance, greed, over-eating, financial debt, and sexual addiction. Chains of lying, gossiping, fear, and mistrust. Chains of indifference, pride, and vanity.

Congregation:

And, behold, the angel of the Lord came, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands (Acts 12:7).

Leader:

Is not this what the Creator has chosen for us? To loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, to free us from oppression, and that we break every yoke? (Isaiah 58:6).

Congregation:

Being then made free from sin, we have become the servants of righteousness. For when we were the servants of sin, we were free from righteousness (Romans 6:18, 20).

Leader:

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin. And the servant abideth not in the house forever: but the Son abideth forever (John 8:32-35). For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ (2 Corinthians 10:3-5).

Congregation:

If the Son therefore shall make us free, we shall be free indeed (John 8:36).

Leader:

Today we stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and we declare we will not be held again in a yoke of bondage (Galatians 5:1). But now being made free from sin, and becoming



servants to God, we have His fruit unto holiness, and in the end everlasting life (Romans 6:22).

ALL:

We are free! Praise the Lord, we are free! No longer bound! No more chains holding us! Our souls are resting; we are grateful for this blessing! Praise the Lord! Hallelujah, we are free!

•

11. Hymn or Anthem

Hymn

- (a) Father, I Stretch My Hand to Thee. By Charles Wesley. Tune by Hugh Wilson
- (b) Stand Up for Jesus. By George Duffield, Jr. Tune, (WEBB), by George J. Webb
- (c) Amazing Grace. By John Henry Newton. Choral arr. by John Ness Beck for SATB voices

Anthem

- (d) Come, Christians, Join to Sing. Text: Christian Bateman. Arr. John Stoddart

Location:

GIA Publications, Inc.
Chicago, IL 60638
Phone: 1-800-442-1358
Online location: www.giamusic.com

- (e) Blow Ye the Trumpet! By Charles Wesley. Arr. by Craig Courtney. For SATB voices, *based on Luke 4:18-19*

• Location:

- Beckenhorst Press, Inc.
Phone: 614-451-6461
Online location: www.beckenhorstpress.com

•

- (f) He Stooped to Bless. By Edward Margetson. This selection is for SATB.

• Location:

- GIA Publications, Inc.
Chicago, IL 60638
- Phone: 1-800-GIA-1358
Online location: www.giamusic.com

•

- (g) Song of Aspiration. By Craig Courtney. This selection is for Choral SATB.

• Location:

- Beckenhorst Press, Inc.
Columbus, OH 43220
Phone: 614-451-6461
- Online location: www.beckenhorstpress.com

•

12. Spirituals or Traditional Songs

- (a) Certainly Lord. Negro Spiritual. *This selection should follow the Spoken Response in #11(b).*



•
 (b) Glory, Glory, Hallelujah (Since I Laid My Burdens Down).

•
 (c) Ride On King Jesus. Spiritual. Arr. by Howard Helvey. For SATB, a capella

•
 (d) Hands on the Plow. Spiritual. Arr. by Jerard Woods. *This is an updated contemporary version!*

•
13. Gospel Songs

•
 (a) Lord of Everything. By Dwayne Bennett

•
 (b) Oh, to Be Kept by Jesus. By Thurston Frazier

•
 (c) Jesus Dropped the Charges. By The O'Neal Twins and The Interfaith Choir

•
 (d) And Yet I'm Still Saved. By Donald Lawrence and Terrence Sykes

•
14. Modern Songs

•
 (a) I'll Make the Difference. By Moses Hogan

•
 (b) Never Alone. By Anthony Brown

•
 (c) Yes We Can! By Allen Toussaint

•
15. Songs for Children and Youth

•
 (a) Overcome. By Michael Sally. *This song employs the familiar "We Shall Overcome" mantra to carry an important message for our time: keep up the fight for a better nation—for our children's sake and to honor our ancestors' many sacrifices.*

(b) Let's Change the World. By David R. Curry, Jr. and Dorcus Thigpen

(c) Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me 'Round. Spiritual. *This selection is inspired by the 2007 "Freedom Tour" by the Chicago Children's Choir, a multiracial, multicultural choir formed in 1956.*

16. Offering Songs/or Instrumental

•
 (a) Release. By John P. Kee

•
 (b) I've Seen Him Work. By Rick Robinson

•
17. Song or Instrumental for the Period of Prayer

Prayer



- (a) “Drinking the Cup of Justice: A Prayer of Confession for Human Relations Sunday.” By Rina Terry

(Optional: Have ushers hand out small cups with water or juice.)

Leader (*raises cup*):

Lord, we raise your cup of justice to our lips this day
 Knowing that, for we who have not loved as you love,
 The sweetness is from you, the bitterness from our own hard hearts.

How many times have we valued only those who look and sound like ourselves?
 How often have we laughed at jokes that demean others?
 How often have we smiled outwardly and judged inwardly?

Lord, we are afraid of your Cup of Justice.
 We do not trust difference
 And, when we are truly honest, we know we do not trust you as we should.

Forgive us, we pray.
 Help us have the courage to drink deeply of this cup.
 Help us raise it by the strength of your love for us and for all your people.
 Amen.

Song

- (b) I Have Decided. To Natasha Leonard

- (c) You Are My Strength. By Reuben Morgan

•

18. Sermonic

- (a) Called to Be. By Jonathan Nelson

•

- (b) A Witness for the Lord. By Glenn Burleigh

•

19. Invitational Song or Instrumental

- (a) Certainly Lord. Negro Spiritual. *This selection can follow the Spoken Response in #10 (i).*

- (b) Only What You Do for Christ Will Last. By Raymond Raspberry

- (c) Redeemed. By Fanny J. Crosby. Tune by William J. Kirkpatrick

- (d) You Spoke Over Me. By Allen Carr and Allundria Carr

- (e) Turning Around “Siyakudumisa” By Vashawn Mitchell

- (f) Marvelous. By Walter Hawkins

- (g) Our Eyes Are On You. By John W. Stevenson

•



(h) Peace and Favor. By Kurt Carr

-
- Spoken Sermonic Response

(i) Celebrating the Life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Introductory Statement and Response to the Word. By Kwaisi Kena.

"As you reflect on the Word you have heard from God, remember that the Bible teaches that faith without works is dead. It does us no good to hear God's word unless we are willing to respond."

[Sung by one voice: "Have you got good religion?"]

"Do you love God?"

Reader 1: If anyone boasts (saying), "I love God," and goes right on hating his brother or sister, thinking nothing of it, (that person) is a liar. (1 John 4:20, *the Message*)

[Sung by one voice: "Have you got good religion?"]

Reader 2: Jesus identified personally with the poor. He said, "I was hungry and you gave me no meal." (Matthew 25:42a, *The Message*)

Reader 1: In _____, ___ of ___ elderly and ___ of ___ children go to bed hungry each day. (*Input hunger statistics for your city or county. General information about food security in the United States may be found at <https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-security-in-the-us/key-statistics-graphics/>*)

[Sung by one voice: "Have you got good religion?"]

Reader 2: Jesus said, "I was homeless and you gave me no bed." (Matthew 25:43a, *The Message*)

Reader 1: How can we say we love God if we do nothing while _____ homeless shiver at night in _____ (city)? (*Substitute statistics from your city or country.*)

[Sung by one voice: "Have you got good religion?"]

Reader 2: Jesus said, "I was sick and in prison and you didn't visit me." (From Matthew 25:44)

Reader 1: The incarceration rate in the United States is four times the world average.

[Sung by one voice: "Have you got good religion?"]

Reader 2: The command we have from Christ is blunt: Loving God includes loving people. You've got to love both.

[Sung by one voice: "Have you got good religion?"]

Leader: The song asks, "Have you got good religion?" It demands a response. But before we say, "Certainly Lord," let us pray.



-
- [PRAYER] God, you are so loving and compassionate. You hear the audible cries of the poor, the hungry, the homeless, and the incarcerated. You also hear the silence of inaction. When we become too comfortable and complacent, disturb our peace with questions. Ask us if we have *good religion*. Ask us if we love God. Ask us if we love our neighbors in the global village. Ignore our excuses. Ignore our regrets. Then, wait for our honest reply. And lead us to integrity in faith and action. Amen.
-
- [Congregation sings: "Certainly Lord" – (#10.(a))

20. Benediction

- - Prayer
- (a) Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Part B: Benediction (Based on Revelation 2:17, Isaiah 62:2). By Michelle Riley Jones

In our worship journey today, we have turned to you. And you have turned to us and have heard our prayers. As we close this service, we hear your voice yet again: "Hear ye, hear ye! You who have overcome, I will give you a white stone with a new name engraved on it" (Rev. 2:17). "And the nations shall see your righteousness and vindication—not your own, but only as I have ascribed it to you; and you shall be called by a new name which the mouth of the Lord shall name" (Isaiah 62:2). We will not leave here like we came. We leave here with a new recognition; we are REDEEMED! We leave here thankful for your goodness, and empowered by your Spirit. Thank you, Lord! Hallelujah! Amen!

Songs

- (b) Beams of Heaven. Arr. Robert E, Wooten
- (c) We Won't Leave Here Like We Came. By Maceo Woods
- (d) Keep the Dream Alive. By Robert Manuel
- (e) May the Work I've Done Speak for Me. Text and Tune by Sullivan Pugh
- Processional Song
- (f) Pride (In the Name of Love). By Bono. *This song was written by Bono to commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and used in association with the campaign to make Martin Luther King Jr. Day a holiday in the state of Arizona. It was also performed at the concert for Barack Obama's presidential inauguration on January 18, 2009.*

21. Audio-Visual and Other Suggestions

- a) Drama Team can dramatize Litany, "No More Chains Holding Me" (in #1 (d)). At start, Audio team plays "Chains." Begin trailing off at 0:49 seconds. At close, Audio team plays "I'm Free" (or organist can play selection).
- b) Use Revelation 2:17 to emphasize the message of redemption. Get white stones, and mark the word "REDEEMED" on them, and distribute to the congregation. These can be passed out during the prayer or at the end of service.



Worship Bulletins and Other Art

- c) Downloadable art images of Martin Luther King Jr. can be found online at <http://www.newsart.com/x1/x529.htm>.

Screens

- d) Take selected quotes from King's "Letter From a Birmingham Jail" and pair with Scriptures on screens:

- While confined here in the Birmingham city jail, I came across your recent statement calling our present activities "unwise and untimely."

"An unjust man is an abomination to the righteous, but one whose way is straight is an abomination to the wicked."—Proverbs 29:27
- I am in Birmingham because injustice is here...

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free."—Luke 4:18
- I cannot sit idly by in Atlanta and not be concerned about what happens in Birmingham.

"Sometimes I tell myself not to think about you, LORD, or even mention your name. But your message burns in my heart and bones, and I cannot keep silent."—Jeremiah 20:9
- Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.

"If anyone thinks he is religious, although he does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father is this: to look after orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained by the world."—James 1:26
- Anyone who lives inside the United States can never be considered an outsider ...

"For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people."—Titus 2:11
- I hope, sirs, you can understand our legitimate and unavoidable impatience ...

"But if I say, "I will not mention his word or speak anymore in his name," his word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot."—Jeremiah 20:9
- One may well ask, "How can you advocate breaking some laws and obeying others?" The answer is found in the fact that there are two types of laws: there are just laws, and there are unjust laws.



“But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.”—James 1:25

- A just law is a man-made code that squares with the moral law, or the law of God. An unjust law is a code that is out of harmony with the moral law.

“Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him”—1 John 2:4

- Of course, there is nothing new about this kind of civil disobedience. It was seen sublimely in the refusal of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to obey the laws of Nebuchadnezzar because a higher moral law was involved.

“For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. “—1 Peter 2:15-16

- We will reach the goal of freedom in Birmingham and all over the nation, because the goal of America is freedom.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”—John 3:16

- “If the inexpressible cruelties of slavery could not stop us, the opposition we now face will surely fail.”

“No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn.”— Isaiah 54:17a

- “We will win our freedom because the sacred heritage of our nation and the eternal will of God are embodied in our echoing demands.”

“This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.” – Isaiah 54:17b

- **Cites and Additional Information for Music and Material Listed**

1. Introit /Invocation/ Litany

Song for Gathering

(a) We Are Called. By David Haas

Location:

GIA Publications, Inc.
 7404 South Mason Avenue
 Chicago, IL 60638
 Phone: 1-800-GIA-1358
 Online location: www.giamusic.com



Meditation for Gathering

(b) King's Light. By Michelle Riley Jones, with quote by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. from the speech "Strength to Love," (1963). Quote accessed at <http://www.mlkonline.net/quotes.html> on February 2, 2018

(c) Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Part A: Invocation. (Based on Revelation 2:7). By Michelle Riley Jones

Litany

(d) No More Chains Holding Me. By Michelle Riley Jones

•

2. Hymn or Anthem

Hymn

(a) Father, I Stretch My Hand to Thee. By Charles Wesley. Tune by Hugh Wilson

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #127

African Methodist Episcopal Zion Bicentennial Hymnal. Nashville, TN: A.M.E. Zion Publishing House, 1996. #494

Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 1987. #223

(b) Stand Up for Jesus. By George Duffield, Jr. Tune, (WEBB), by George J. Webb

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #476

African Methodist Episcopal Zion Bicentennial Hymnal. #432

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. Nashville, TN: Triad Publications, 2005. #409

Church of God in Christ. Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. Memphis, TN: Church of God in Christ Pub. Board in association with the Benson Co., 1982. #29

(c) Amazing Grace. By John Henry Newton. Choral arr. by John Ness Beck for SATB voices

Location:

Beckenhorst Press, Inc.
960 Old Henderson Road
Columbus, OH 43220
Phone: 614-451-6461
Online location: www.beckenhorstpress.com

Anthem

(d) Come, Christians, Join to Sing. Text: Christian Bateman. Arr. John Stoddart

Location:

GIA Publications, Inc.
Chicago, IL 60638



Phone: 1-800-442-1358
Online location: www.giamusic.com

(e) Blow Ye the Trumpet! By Charles Wesley. Arr. by Craig Courtney. For SATB voices, *based on Luke 4:18-19*

- Location:
- Beckenhorst Press, Inc.
Phone: 614-451-6461
Online location: www.beckenhorstpress.com
-

(f) He Stopped to Bless. By Edward Margetson. This selection is for SATB.

- Location:
- GIA Publications, Inc.
Chicago, IL 60638
- Phone: 1-800-GIA-1358
Online location: www.giamusic.com
-

(g) Song of Aspiration. By Craig Courtney. This selection is for Choral SATB.

- Location:
- Beckenhorst Press, Inc.
Columbus, OH 43220
Phone: 614-451-6461
- Online location: www.beckenhorstpress.com
-

3. Spirituals or Traditional Songs

(a) Certainly Lord. Negro Spiritual. *This selection should follow the Spoken Response in #11(b).*

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #678

Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. #121

(b) Glory, Glory, Hallelujah (Since I Laid My Burdens Down).

- Location:
- African American Heritage Hymnal. #500

Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. #290

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. #31

(c) Ride On King Jesus. Spiritual. Arr. by Howard Helvey. For SATB, a capella

Location:

- Beckenhorst Press, Inc.
Columbus, OH 43220
- Phone: 614-451-6462
- Online location: www.beckenhorstpress.com



-
- (d) Hands on the Plow. Spiritual. Arr. by Jerard Woods. *This is an updated contemporary version!*
 - Location:
 - Various Artists/Jerard Woods. Gospel Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Atlanta, GA: ATF Records, 2010.
 -
 -
 -
- 4. Gospel Songs**
 -
 - (a) Lord of Everything. By Dwayne Bennett
 - Location:
 - Miami Mass Choir. Miami Mass Choir Live at the Adrienne Arsht Center. Majo Records. 2016
 -
 - (b) Oh, to Be Kept by Jesus. By Thurston Frazier
 - Location:
 - African American Heritage Hymnal. #423
 -
 - (c) Jesus Dropped the Charges. By The O’Neal Twins and The Interfaith Choir
 - Location:
 - The O’Neal Twins and The Interfaith Choir. “Jesus Dropped the Charges.” Smith, Willie Mae Ford, Thomas Andrew Dorsey, Mahalia Jackson, Zella Jackson Price, and Deloris Barrett Campbell. Say Amen, Somebody Music from the Film. New York, NY: DRG Records, 1983; re-released with film. New York, NY: Rykodisc, 2007.
 - (d) And Yet I’m Still Saved. By Donald Lawrence and Terrence Sykes
 - Location:
 - Lawrence, Donald. Donald Lawrence Presents the Tri-City Singers—Finale: Act Two. New York, NY: EMI Gospel, 2006
 -
- 5. Modern Songs**
 -
 - (a) I’ll Make the Difference. By Moses Hogan

Location:

Hal Leonard Publishing Corp.
 7777 W. Bluemound Rd.
 Milwaukee, WI 53213
 Phone: 414-774-3630
 Online location: www.halleonard.com
 -
 - (b) Never Alone. By Anthony Brown
 - Location:
 - Anthony Brown & Group Therapy. A Long Way From Sunday. Indianapolis, IN: Tyscot Records. 2017
 -



(c) Yes We Can! By Allen Toussaint

Location:

Various Artists/Sounds of Blackness. Celebrate Radio Presents: Yes We Can! A Tribute to President Barack Obama. New York, NY: Celebrate Radio, 2009.

•

6. Songs for Children and Youth

•

(a) Overcome. By Michael Sally.

Location:

Miami Mass Choir. Miami Mass Choir Live at The Adrienne Arscht Center. Miami, FL:MaJo Records. 2016

(b) Let's Change the World. By David R. Curry, Jr. and Dorcus Thigpen

Location:

Mississippi Children's Choir. A New Creation. Jackson, MS: Malaco Records, 1995.

(c) Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me 'Round. Spiritual.

Location:

Chicago Children's Choir. Songs On the Road to Freedom. Chicago, IL:Chicago Children's Choir. 2008

7. Offering Songs/or Instrumental

•

(a) Release. By John P. Kee

• Location:

- The Church Choir. If God Be For Us. Charlotte, NC:Kee Music Group. 2016

•

(b) I've Seen Him Work. By Rick Robinson

• Location:

- Wilson, Anita. Sunday Song. Nashville, TN:Entertainment One. 2017

•

8. Song or Instrumental for the Period of Prayer

Prayer

(a) "Drinking the Cup of Justice: A Prayer of Confession for Human Relations Sunday." By Rina Terry

Location:

Online location: <http://www.gbod.org/misc/resource/drinking-the-cup-of-justice> accessed on February 4, 2018.

Song

(b) I Have Decided. To Natasha Leonard

Location:

Cobbs Leonard, Tasha. Heart. Passion. Pursuit. Brentwood, TN:Motown Gospel. 2017

(c) You Are My Strength. By Reuben Morgan

Location:

Hillsong. Savior King (Live). Australia: Hillsong Music Australia. 2007.



•
9. Sermonic

(a) Called to Be. By Jonathan Nelson

Location:

Nelson, Jonathan. Better Days. New York, NY: Integrity Media, 2010.

•
(b) A Witness for the Lord. By Glenn Burleigh

• Location:

- Glenn Burleigh Music
- P.O. Box 16091
- Oklahoma City, OK 73113
- Phone: 405-842-3470
- Online location: www.glenmusik.com

•
10. Invitational Song or Instrumental

(a) Certainly Lord. Negro Spiritual. This selection should follow the Spoken Response in #10 (i).

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #678

Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. #121

(b) Only What You Do for Christ Will Last. By Raymond Raspberry

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #548

Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. #286

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. #531

(c) Redeemed. By Fanny J. Crosby. Tune by William J. Kirkpatrick

Location:

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. #384

(d) You Spoke Over Me. By Allen Carr and Allundria Carr

Location:

Carr, Jekalyn. The Life Project. Nashville, TN:Entertainment One. 2016

(e) Turning Around "Siyakudumisa" By Vashawn Mitchell

Location:

Mitchell, Vashawn. Secret Place (Live in South Africa). Brentwood, TN:Motown Gospel. 2016

(f) Marvelous. By Walter Hawkins

Location:

- Hawkins, Walter. Love Alive V. Inglewood, CA: Gospocentric, 2010.

(g) Our Eyes Are On You. By John W. Stevenson



Location:

Hobbs, Darwin. Champion. Santa Monica, CA: Universal Music Group. 2010

-

(h) Peace and Favor. By Kurt Carr

Location:

Carr, Kurt and the Kurt Carr Singers. Just the Beginning. Inglewood, CA: Gospocentric, 2008.

-

- Spoken Sermonic Response

(i) Celebrating the Life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Introductory Statement and Response to the Word. By Kwaisi Kena.

Location:

Bridgeman Davis, Valerie and Safiyah Fosua, eds. The Africana Worship Book: Year C. Nashville, TN: GBOD Discipleship Resources, 2008, p. 237.

Online location: <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/response-to-the-word-martin-luther-king-jr.-day> accessed on February 3, 2018

-

11. Benediction

-

- Prayer

(a) Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Part B: Benediction (Based on Revelation 2:17, Isaiah 62:2). By Michelle Riley Jones

(b) Beams of Heaven. Arr. Robert E. Wooten

Location:

- GIA Publications, Inc.
Phone: 1-800-GIA-1358
Online location: www.giamusic.com

(c) We Won't Leave Here Like We Came. By Maceo Woods

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #407

(d) Keep the Dream Alive. By Robert Manuel

Location:

Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. #295

(e) May the Work I've Done Speak for Me. Text and Tune by Sullivan Pugh

Location:

The New National Baptist Hymnal 21st Century Edition. #543

- Processional Song

(f) Pride (In the Name of Love). By Bono.

Location:

U2. The Unforgettable Fire. New York, NY: Island/Universal, 1984.

-



Sunday March 25th

Palm Sunday

“3 Evils of Society: Materialism, Militarism & Racism”

Isaiah 2:2-5; Psalm 100:3 Luke 12:16-21; 1 Timothy 6:17-19

Commentator:

Rev. Dr. Charlie Dates. Progressive Baptist Church, Chicago, IL

It is easy, in today's post-modern celebration of Martin L. King, Jr., to forget that King was a gospel preacher first. This is remarkable to me, and encouragement to my ministry. God used a preacher to change America. We preachers would do well to remember King's rejection of militarism as a panacea, materialism as an opium, and racism as affirmation.

A basic motivation for evil is insecurity. We want more, to rule over more, keep more and protect what we think we own. It's everywhere. Corporate boardrooms, the streets of Chicago, the halls of Congress, and unfortunately, even in the church. Yet Isaiah, and the Psalmist with him, paint a portrait of serenity, sublimity, and security unmatched and unrivaled in all of literature or history anywhere. Can this really be true? In a word, yes. King preached this. We are but tenants, stewards of an earth owned and super-ruled by God Himself. The coming days, though viscous they seem, are but a prelude to His majesty. Look! There they come. Can you see the nations streaming to the mountaintop? Rivers don't flow upstream. But like a movement of water, the nations will stream to the mountain of His house by the magnetism of His person. God does not simply have the solutions for our problems; He is the solution. In His presence, the weapons of war transform into agrarian machinery.

One can almost hear King, echoing from the pulpits of Alabama and Georgia, in Chicago and Washington D. C., an unrelenting hope that all would be well one day. What are we to do until then? Life needs capital. Conflicts demand resolution. Power rarely concedes. Yet none of this creates despair in the heart of the Christ-follower. Read the teachings of Jesus. May you hear in them today, the call of God beckoning you to be still; to store up treasure not in barns, but in deeds of generosity; to fix your hope on He who is eternally good, faithful, and true.

MUSIC & WORSHIP RESOURCES

**Dr. Leo H. Davis, Jr., DMA, Lectionary Team Liturgist
Minister of Worship, Mississippi Blvd. Christian Church, Memphis, TN
Founder, No Gimmicks Church Music Consulting**

Worship Planning Notes

“As Christians, we see Palm Sunday as an event celebrating the Lordship of Christ. But this Lordship was not fully established until later Christian communities reflected on the life of Jesus, penned the Gospels, documented his miracles and all of his works and affirmed the



Lordship of Jesus as Christ. We cannot fully understand the Lordship of Christ until some centuries later.

We must also remember that, contrary to some theological assertions, his status as Lord does not cancel out his prophetic claims of God's concern that truth and justice be established on earth. That is in fact what he rode into Jerusalem to proclaim." -- Carlyle Fielding Stewart, III

Palm branches should be distributed to the adults in the congregation, and colored fabric cut in long, vertical pieces can be given to the youth and children. Also see the ideas in the lectionary commentary for additional ideas for children. Your church may elect to re-enact Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem in the form of a processional (congregational or worship team) or dramatic presentation.

1. Organ Prelude

- (a) Go Down Moses" (from Four Spiritual Preludes) arranged by David Hurd
- (b) Prelude on "I Am Thine, O Lord" arranged by Monte Thomas
- (c) Toccata on "Good News" (Based on two U.S. Slaves Spirituals Good News, Chariot's Comin'), Arranged by Carl Maultsby

Litany

Leader: "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!" Today we celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

Congregation: Hosanna! Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Leader: Jesus humbly rode into Jerusalem on a donkey for the Feast of the Passover. The crowds spread their cloaks on the road and others laid palms to prepare the way for His victorious coming.

Congregation: Rejoice! Rejoice! The King arrives!

Leader: Five hundred years before Jesus, the prophet Zechariah told of the Messiah's coming in humility and peace.

Congregation: Rejoice! Rejoice! The triumphant King has come!

Leader: Christ came to declare freedom and equality, there is no longer Jew or Greek, slave or free, male and female.

Unison: We give glory to the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He came to give justice, equality, peace, and love to all mankind. RIDE ON KING JESUS. RIDE ON!!

2. Processional

- (a) Fanfare for Palm Sunday: Hosanna to the Son of David. Setting by Richard Proulx



- (b) All Glory Laud and Honor. Text: Theodulph of Orleans. TUNE by Melchior Teshner
- (c) Lift High The Cross. Text: George W. Kitchin. and Michael R. Newbolt. TUNE: CRUCIFER
- (d) Hosanna words and music by Kirk Franklin
NOTE: In the rendering of this song by Franklin, the term “Hosanna” is NOT a name for Jesus (as the wording and salvation of the song suggest); it is instead a plea or petition that literally means, “Lord, save us!”

3. Anthem/Spiritual
Article LXXIII.

- (a) The Holy City setting by Noble Cain . arranged by John Stoddart/Jason Max. Ferdinand
- (b) The Majesty and Glory of Your Name words and music by Tom Fettke
- (c) Lift Up Your Heads setting by Herbert L. Ashford
- (d) Ride On King Jesus arranged by Moses G. Hogan
- (e) Rockin’ Jerusalem arranged by Damon Dandridge
- (f) Beams of Heaven setting by Nathan Carter

4. Traditional Songs
Article LXXIV.

- (a) There’s A Stranger In Town arranged by Charles Nicks, Jr.
- (b) He Decided To Die words and music by Margaret Douroux
- (c) Jesus, How I Love Calling Your Name words and music by Shirley Caesar

5. Modern Songs

The suggested selections below are designated for small to larger ensembles, with experienced vocalists.

- (a) Holy, Thou Art Holy. By David Frazier
- (b) In Christ Alone, setting by Kristian Stanfill
- (c) Surely Goodness, Surely Mercy. By Shane and Shane
- (d) Hosanna. setting by Glenn Burleigh

6. Offertory Song or Instrumental
Article LXXV.

Organ Offertory

- (a) Triumphal Entry by Uzee Brown (Organ solo)

7. Song or Instrumental for the Period of Prayer



Meter Hymn

- (a) Father, I Stretch My Hands to Thee. By Charles Wesley. Arr. by Evelyn Simpson-Curenton
- (b) Thank You For Hearing Our Prayer words and music by Stephen Key
- (c) We Pray This Day words and music by R. Bryant Braxton

Instrumental

- (a) *Awesome God*. By Rich Mullins

8. Congregational Songs or Songs for Praise Teams

The following selections would be best performed by a small ensemble (e.g. a Praise Team), with a vocally suitable worship leader. The hymn singing should lend itself to congregational participation at the direction of the worship leader.

- (a) *Hosanna* words and music by Judith McAllister and Steven Taylor
- (b) *I Call You Faithful*. By Bobby Price and Kevin Walker
- (c) *Ride On King Jesus* setting by Ernest Davis

9. Invitational Song or Instrumental

Article LXXVI.

- (a) *Speak to My Heart*. By Donnie McClurkin
This song can be used as an instrumental or vocal solo selection.

10. Benediction Song or Instrumental

Article LXXVII.

- (a) *Always Remember Jesus*. By Andraé Crouch. Arr. Jason M. Ferdinand

11. Audio Visual Suggestions

- (a) Purple or Red cloths adorn the cross and pulpit podium. Centralized spot is suggested.
- (b) Use images of palm branches or a donkey entering the city on bulletin covers and/or screens
- (c) Use sound effects of "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord." Many are downloadable.

12. Other Recommendations

- (a) Palm branches may be purchased at local nursery or through online resources.
- (b) Palm Sunday Processional with full costume and donkey entrance during opening processional hymn
 - Congregational Processional: If planning a congregational processional. It is advisable that information be distributed to the congregation a week or two in advance so that everyone



knows what to expect. This information may be placed in the bulletin or provided as a separate handout. The processional instructions should be in clear, succinct points to include: (a) how the congregation will proceed in the processional: (b) time and location for congregational gathering (if planning for a congregational processional); (c) times and locations for distribution of palm branches, and (d) arrangements for seniors and others who for health reasons cannot participate. They can be seated by the ushers prior to the processional hymn or anthem.

- **Worship Team Processional:** If it is not feasible for the entire congregation to proceed in, the worship team (clergy, choir, liturgical dancers, dramatic interpreters, praise and worship team, etc.) can reenact the processional, in this scenario, palms may still be distributed (at specified times from pre-designated locations) to the congregation to wave.

Cites and Additional Information for Music and Material Listed

1. Organ Prelude

(a) Go Down Moses (from Four Spiritual Preludes). Arranged by David Hurd

Location:

Morning Star Publications
EC Schirmer
1727 Larkin Williams Road
St. Louis, MO. 63026

(b) "Prelude on" I Am Thine, O Lord" arranged by Monte Thomas

(c) Toccata on " Good News" (Based on two U.S. Slave Spirituals (Good News, Chariot's Comin') arranged by Carl Maultsby

Abbingdon, James. King of Kings (vol.3) Organ Music of Black Composers, Past and Present.
Chicago, IL:GIA Publications, Ind. www.giamusic.com

2. Litany

(a) Triumphant Entry (Palm Sunday)

Location

African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #66

3. Processional

(a) Fanfare for Palm Sunday: Hosanna to the Son of David. By Richard Proulx

Location:

GIA Publications, Inc.
7404 South Mason Avenue
Chicago, IL 60638
Phone: 1-800-442-1358
Online location: www.giamusic.com



- (b) All Glory Laud and Honor: Can be located standardized Hymnals
- (c) Lift High The Cross: Can be located in most standardized hymnals
*In addition, if you have more advanced choirs that are capable of descants on the last verse, seek out hymn concertato arrangements with the addition of brass and timpani.
- (d) Hosanna words and music by Kirk Franklin
Location:
Franklin, Kirk. The Rebirth of Kirk Franklin. Inglewood, CA. Gospocentric. 1992

4. Anthem/Spiritual:

All repertoire listed in this category can be easily purchased at the following:

J. W. Pepper & Sons, Inc.
2480 Industrial Boulevard
Paoli, PA 19301
Phone: 1-800-345-6296
Online location: www.jwpepper.com

5. and 6. Traditional and Modern Songs

All repertoire listed in this category can be easily purchased at the following:

NTIMEMUSIC.COM INC (sheet music and actual recordings)
4913 Albermarle Road
Charlotte, NC.28205
(704) 531-8961
INFO@NTIMEMUSIC.COM
Sheetmusicplus.com (scores)
Musicnotes.com (scores)

7. Offertory Song or Instrumental

Organ Offertory

- (a) Triumphal March. By Uzee Brown.

Location:

King of Kings (Organ Music of Black Composers, Past and Present) Volume 1. Chicago, IL: GIA Music Publications. Online location: www.giamusic.com

8. Song or Instrumental for the Period of Prayer

- (a) Father, I Stretch My Hands to Thee. By Charles Wesley. Arr. By Evelyn Simpson-Curenton.

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #128

- (b) Thank You For Hearing Our Prayer. By Stephen Key

Location:



GIA Publications, Inc.
7404 South Mason Avenue
Chicago, IL 60638
Phone: 1-800-442-1358
Online location: www.giamusic.com

(c) We Pray This Day. By R. Bryant Braxton
Contact composer at Metropolitan Baptist Church. Largo, MD. (202) 238-5000

Instrumental

(d) Awesome God. By Rich Mullins

Location:

www.youtube.com
sheetmusicplus.com
musicnotes.com

9. and 10. Congregational Songs or Songs for Praise Teams and Invitational Song or Instrumental

All repertoire listed in this category can be easily purchased at the following:

NTIMEMUSIC.COM INC (sheet music and actual recordings)
4913 Albermarle Road
Charlotte, NC. 28205
(704) 531-8961
info@ntimemusic.com

11. Benediction Song or Instrumental

(a) Speak to My Heart by Donnie McClurkin

Location:

NTIMEMUSIC.COM INC (sheet music and actual recordings)
4913 Albermarle Road
Charlotte, NC. 28205
(704) 531-8961
info@ntimemusic.com

**April 1, 2018
Easter Sunday**

“Where Do We Go From Here”

OT Deuteronomy 24:10-22 Psalm 90; Matthew 25:34-40 or Matthew 28:6 ; Revelation 3:14-22

Commentator:

Reverend Dr. Rosalyn Nichols, Senior Pastor Freedom Chapel Christian Church, Memphis, TN



Deuteronomy 24:17-22 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

¹⁷ You shall not deprive a resident alien or an orphan of justice; you shall not take a widow's garment in pledge. ¹⁸ Remember that you were a slave in Egypt and the LORD your God redeemed you from there; therefore I command you to do this.

¹⁹ When you reap your harvest in your field and forget a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it; it shall be left for the alien, the orphan, and the widow, so that the LORD your God may bless you in all your undertakings. ²⁰ When you beat your olive trees, do not strip what is left; it shall be for the alien, the orphan, and the widow.

²¹ When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, do not glean what is left; it shall be for the alien, the orphan, and the widow. ²² Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt; therefore I am commanding you to do this.

LEAVE SOME FOR SOMEONE ELSE

Before Barack Hussein Obama, young 35 years old Maynard Holbrook Jackson became the first [African-American](#) mayor of [Atlanta, Georgia](#) and of any major city in the South. It was 1973 and he went on to be longest-serving mayor of Atlanta, second only to [William B. Hartsfield](#). The booming and vibrant Atlanta of today, known, loved and admired by many, can undeniably be directly attributed to Mayor Jackson. What was at the heart of his accomplishments? Under Mayor Jackson's leadership those who had been denied equal access to Atlanta's economic table found in him an ally who created, mandated and required those, who had much, to intentionally make room at the table for those who, regardless of circumstance, had less.

Mayor Jackson required the business community of Atlanta, Georgia to leave some for someone else.

In Deuteronomy we see the people wrestling with Where do we go from here? A wilderness driven people learning how to live beyond their enslavement, beyond their emancipated wilderness, into the fulfillment of God's promise. We have the Constitution of the United States. God's people had, *The Shema Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone.*⁵ *You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.*

We have the Bill of Rights and amendments to our constitution, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy serve as their amendments. They flesh out how for the next generation, on the edge of entering the promise, would be expected to demonstrate what it truly meant to love God, by the ways in which they love their neighbors as they love themselves. To do that they were commanded to remember, *You shall not deprive a resident alien or an orphan of justice; you shall not take a widow's garment in pledge.*

God's people were expected to act justly with their neighbors. Why?

They were to remember their own story of liberation and expected to be economically empathetic toward the stranger, the child with no family, the widow who had no credit beyond the clothes on her back. (Deuteronomy 24.18)

How? Deuteronomy 24.19-21 makes it clear.

LEAVE SOME FOR SOMEONE ELSE. Leave not their rejects, not their discarded, nor their disliked, but the very thing they themselves would harvest as resource. Allow others access to the economic harvest that the land provided.



Fifty years Dr. King death, this word is still relevant for us as a nation. We are all the immigrant beneficiaries of the enslaved and enslavers. Those who have walked into the blessed promise of prosperity are reminded, just as our faith ancestors, that we too are to make room at God's economic banquet table for those who are in need.

That is what the Word of God commands us to do if we say we love God. That is what Mayor Maynard Jackson did in Atlanta, and if we wish to create the beloved community of God that Dr. King spoke of 50 years ago, we are challenged by faith and commanded by God to work from the pews we sit in to the policies we enforce, to ensure that we always remember to LEAVE SOME FOR SOMEONE ELSE. The blessings we receive we are called to share

Commentator:

Reverend Monte Hillis, Minister for Racial Justice of the Disciple Center for Public Witness

Matthew 25: 34-40

- 34 *Then the King will say to those at his right hand,
 "Come you who are blessed by my Father,
 Inherit the Kingdom prepared for you
 From the foundation of the world;*
- 35 *for I was hungry and you gave me food.
 I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink.
 I was a stranger and you welcomed me.*
- 36 *I was naked and you gave me clothing.
 I was sick and you took care of me.
 I was in prison and you visited me.*
- 37-39 *Then the righteous will answer him,
 "LORD, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you water, or
 naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you, a stranger and welcomed you,
 or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you in prison and visited you?"*
- 40 *And the King will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who
 are members of my family, you did it to me.*

Where do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?

This is the title of Martin Luther King's fourth book, published in 1968. Dr. King was fully and creatively engaged with the living history of his time, a history he did so much to help create. And yet, it was a dangerous and tumultuous history that shaped and transformed his own brief yet momentous searching life.

Dr. King was determined to be fully and creatively engaged with the living history of his time...a history he did so much to create but also a dangerous and tumultuous history that shaped and transformed his own amazingly brief (yet momentous) life of searching. A study of Dr. King continuously raises and reflects upon basic questions he posed throughout his work: Who are we? Where do we go from here? Chaos or Community? Who are we meant to be?

Fully and creatively engaged with the living history of his time, Dr. King touched the common cause of all the disinherited. He spoke out forcefully for the cause of all the disinherited. ..Race (namely Black and White), thereby laying the basis for contemporary struggles that unfold around socio-economic issues. Dr.



King spoke out sharply for all the poor in all hues...for he knew color “made them different”; and yet, misery and oppression made them the same.

Easter season is a time of hope. Easter brings the awareness that God is present even when not directly noticed. Easter allows us to affirm that although God sometimes seems distant, there are rays of hope casting their light on our way through life.

Let us pray.

Loving God,
Open our eyes to see what is beautiful,
Open our minds to know what is true,
And our hearts to love what is good.
AMEN