

A Liturgy for Outdoor Ministry Sunday

July 10, 2016

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Call to Worship

Leader: God, as we gather together to worship you, we stand in awe of your creation.

All : We see you in the rising and setting of the sun.

We see you in the moon and the stars of the night sky.

Your creative presence is all around us.

Leader: We see you in the beasts of the field, the birds of the air and the creatures of the sea.

All: From the flowers of the valley to the mountaintops in the sky,

Leader: We see your beauty all over the earth.

All: Let us worship you for who you are our creator and sustainer.

Call to Confession

Though God's creation dazzles us with all of its wonder, we have not always done our part to be good stewards of it. Let us confess before God the times we have missed the mark when it comes to our own lives as well as caring for creation.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

God, we come to you today acknowledging that things are broken. Creation is broken. Relationships are broken. We are broken. But in the same breath we know that you make all things new. Today we pray that your presence would be felt in our brokenness. We ask that through your grace all of creation would once again be made whole. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the great news today; the life, death, and resurrection of Christ covers all our iniquities. Just as quickly as our sins were offered up, they have been forgiven. Thanks be to God!

Prayer for Illumination

God, we thank you for your word. Thank you that it continues to speak to us today. As we open the scriptures this morning we pray that we would hear your voice loud and clear. Amen.

Scripture Possibilities for the Sermon

- Psalm 19:1-4
- Psalm 8
- Mark 6:46
- Romans 1:20

Prayers of the People (bidding prayer)

Creator God,

You are the one who has given all the world life and given it abundantly. No matter how much we praise your name, we can never say enough to thank you for all that you have given. We have come to you asking forgiven for our part in helping the world stay broken instead of being the initiators of healing. For that reason, we come to you now as we pray for the people of the world.

For creation and the ways we continue to harm it...

For those who will be experiencing camp for the first time or maybe the last time this summer...

For those who will be the leadership in those camps...

For safe travel to and from vacations and events this summer...

For those who are hurting and need our prayers and comfort...

For those who are hungry and need to be fed...

For those who do not have a place to lay their heads...

For those who are in prison and those who are imprisoned by sickness...

For all who love you God, for those who don't know you, and for those who have turned away from you...

We pray for what we need O God just as Jesus taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

As evident through all of creation, God has given freely given to us. Let us continue to worship through the giving of our tithes and our offerings.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God we know that you aren't in need of anything we have to offer. However you desire for us to serve you in every aspect of our life. We pray that this offering was not a meaningless ritual but a true act of worship. Bless these tithes and offerings and guide us as we seek to use them to serve you in all of creation. Amen.

Charge and Benediction

God send us out as a people that seek to honor you in all that we do,
a people who look for you in creation,
and a people who take care of that creation. Amen.