

A Liturgy for Youth Sunday
February 19, 2017
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Call to Worship

Leader: We come together this day to share.

All: To share our love, our concerns, our hurts, and our joys.

Leader: We come together this day to sing.

All: To sing praises to God with the same sincerity and passion as our youth.

Leader: We come together this day to worship.

All: To worship the one from whom all blessings flow.

Leader: Let us worship God.

Call to Confession

The First Epistle of John tells us that when we have faith in God and are honest with God, God will not let us down and will cleanse us of our wrongdoings. Believing in this grace, let us confess our sins and seek the peace that God offers.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Merciful God, we confess that we have not always done things in accordance to your will, and we are sorry. Sometimes we get stuck in our own way of doing things. Our routines, easy for us as they may be, often distract us from where you want us to go and what you want us to do. Lord, please help us to be more earnest and eager to serve and lead. May we display fresh openness and trust to go wherever you lead us. Holy God, in your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: As a patient parent welcomes a lively child,
God embraces each of us with forgiveness, and sustains us with love.

All: Thanks be to God! We are forgiven!

Prayer for Illumination

Omnipotent God, in you there is great wisdom and great knowledge. Please open our ears and our hearts so that we may hear your word with joy and adoration. Amen.

Scripture for the Sermon

- Ruth 1:1-18

Prayers of the People

Gracious and loving God, there are so many concerns in the world around us. There are people who are hurt, homeless, lonely, abandoned, abused, and sick. We ask that you bless those people, lift them up and give them strength.

For those who are confused, lost, or concerned about the future,
we ask that you reassure them and give them guidance.
Give us compassion, eagerness, and a willingness to serve,
so that we can bring the light of your love into their lives.

God, we hope that you can help us to be your disciples and serve all of our neighbors.
We ask all these things through Jesus Christ,
who taught his disciples to pray saying:

**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

God has given us all good gifts, and we are called to share these gifts and not neglect them.

—based on 1 Timothy 4

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Thank you for the gifts you give us, God. Please help us to use them in the way you intend. Bless this offering and the work toward which it is directed. Amen.

Charge

Go! Go and pursue love, faith, and all things righteous.
Do not be afraid, do not hesitate because of your youth.
Instead, use that as encouragement,
as fuel to carry out the work God has laid out for you.
Now go, in peace and love.

—based on Jeremiah 1:4-9 and 1 Timothy 6:11-21

Benediction

And as you go,
Leave this place knowing the great love of God for you.
God is always with you and offers hope in times of trouble.
Do not let others look down on you;
Rather, be assured of the value of being called a child of God.

—based on Jeremiah 1:4-9, 1 John 3:1-3 and 1 Timothy 4:12