

A Liturgy for World Mission Sunday/Pentecost

June 4, 2017

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Formal Worship Service

*As God said: "I will live with them and walk among them,
and I will be their God, and they will be my people." 2 Corinthians 6:16*

Call to Worship

By the Spirit, the church is gathered.

The church is gathered to plead, "Come, Lord Jesus, Come."

By the Spirit, we are built up in comfort and teaching.

The Spirit reminds us of all that Jesus taught us.

By the Spirit, we are sent out.

We are sent out to every nation and every tribe.

We are sent out to proclaim that we are God's people.

God walks with us, and we are God's people.

Call to Confession

Let us confess our sins to God.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Lord, we confess that we are scared of the Holy Spirit. We are scared of the ways you will disrupt our lives and call us to do something new. We confess that when your Spirit speaks, we turn deaf ears. When your Spirit touches our lips, we close our mouths, embarrassed to speak your word. Give us courage, and forgive us, Lord. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

God promises to walk among us. God promises to be our God. If God is with us, who can be against us? Take heart and take courage: in the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven. Take heart and take courage for God promises to walk among us. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us.

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Melt us, mold us, fill us, use us.

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us. Amen.

Scripture Possibilities for the Sermon

- Acts 2:1-21

- Numbers 11: 24-30
- John 20: 19-23

Prayers of Dedication for Stott-Wallace Missionary Offering

Holy Spirit, we offer our gifts to reach beyond our small worlds.

We offer our gifts and remember all of the amazing work you are doing in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

We are one family, united in you.

We speak different languages and celebrate different holidays.

We eat different foods and have different traditions.

But, in your church, we are one.

Multiple the gifts we give

that all your children might be blessed through the work of our hands.

In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, we pray. Amen.

Charge and Benediction

May the God who breathed life into creation be your delight.

May Christ Jesus give hope to your dreaming.

May the Holy Spirit walk among you and set your hearts ablaze with passion.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Contemporary Worship Service

Opening Song

“Spirit of the Living God”

(This song can be sung in a Taize style, which simply means that you sing the first verse of this simple song 3 or 4 times as a way to open the service. The intent is to be contemplative and to set the space for God’s Spirit to be move.)

Prayer with Visual Testimony

Pray for our missionaries, a poster of who they are and where they serve can be found in the 2017 Summer edition of the *Missionary Messenger* magazine.

Pray for the different countries where we have CP churches: Australia, Brazil, Cambodia, Colombia, Guatemala, Haiti, Hong Kong (and Macau), Japan, Laos, Mexico, Philippines, South Korea, Spain, USA.

As part of the prayer for mission, before praying place 14 Bibles on a table or the sanctuary alter to illustrate the witness of Christ by the CP Church in 14 different countries around the world.

Scripture Possibilities for the Sermon

One or more of these can be read during the service or used as the bases of a mission sermon.

- Acts 2:1-21
- Numbers 11: 24-30
- John 20: 19-23

Video Presentation

At some point in the service introduce the inspirational 10 minute mission video with these comments:

The CP Church currently has the largest number of missionaries deployed on the mission field than any other time in our history. We have missionaries serving in Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala, Mexico, Laos, Cambodia and the Philippines. All of these missionaries are planting CP Churches. In addition to our missionaries we are opening new mission fields and planting CP Churches in countries like Australia, Haiti, and Spain. Some our strongest and fastest growing presbyteries are in countries like Hong Kong, Colombia and Japan. This video you are about to see explains an important reason the CP Church is expanding so quickly around the world, we have a strong group of dedicated men and women serving on the mission field. These missionaries, both past and present, are the reason the CP church is a global international church in 14 countries around the world.

Play the new Stott-Wallace Video, *To Walk Among Them* during Sunday morning worship.