

LOVE146

10-Year Anniversary – Liturgy

We asked a few of our friends within the Faith Community Network to help us create a worship service that pastors might use on a Sunday this fall. Our hope is that as Love146 celebrates its 10th anniversary, you will join us in giving thanks to God for what He has done through our partnership together. We also wanted to provide you with a platform to talk as a church about God's heart for justice and mercy, proclaiming that even in the midst of gross injustice, He is making all things new.

Use this liturgy in its entirety and add your own sermon, or take pieces that could fit into your own worship service.

This liturgy is broken into three parts: Who is God? Who are we? Our response.

1. WHO IS GOD?

Welcome / Call to Worship

(Who is God? The One who heals, rescues, saves, redeems. Introduce that as part of the service you will be celebrating and giving thanks with Love146)

Responsive Reading

(Offered by Pastor Dan Kopp, Eastside Vineyard Church, Shelby Township, MI)

Pastor: God, You are light. In You there is no darkness at all. (1 John 1:5).

ALL: May your Kingdom come and may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Pastor: Lord, You are good to all. (Psalm 145:9).

ALL: May your Kingdom come and may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Pastor: God, you work all things for the good of those who love You, who have been called according to Your purpose. (Romans 8:28)

ALL: May your Kingdom come and may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Pastor: Lord God, You declare that you have plans for us, plans to prosper us and not to harm us, plans to give us hope and a future. (Jeremiah 29:11).

ALL: May your Kingdom come and may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Pastor: The LORD is a warrior; the LORD is Your name. (Exodus 15:3).

ALL: May your Kingdom come and may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Pastor: For You are the LORD and You love justice. (Isaiah 61:8).

ALL: May your Kingdom come and may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Pastor: God, You proclaim good news to the poor. You bind up the brokenhearted; You proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners. (Isaiah 61:1).

ALL: May your Kingdom come and may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Pastor: Lord, your mercies are new every morning. Great is your faithfulness. (Lamentations 3:23)

ALL: May your Kingdom come and may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Pastor: God, your heart is for the widow and the orphan. (James 1:27)

ALL: May your Kingdom come and may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Pastor: God, You are not just loving, but You are love. (1 John 4:8)

ALL: May your Kingdom come and may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Pastor: God, You are not deaf to our prayers. (Matthew 7:7).

ALL: May your Kingdom come and may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Pastor: God, we know that every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from You, the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. (James 1:17).

ALL: May your Kingdom come and may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Pastor: When Your disciples asked You to teach them to pray, these are the words you gave them and these are the words we will now say together as one....

ALL: 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Suggested Music

(Offered by Pastor Scott Womer, Terra Nova Church, Troy, NY)

I Sing The Mighty Power of God

Immortal Invisible

Here Is Love *(Matt Redman)*

This Is Our God *(Chris Tomlin)*

All Things New *(Red Mountain Music)*

2. WHO ARE WE

Call to Confession and Repentance

(Who are we? Selfish, prideful, weak, afraid, passive)

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Grace

(Offered by Don Schulster, Bridgeway Community Church, Haledon, NJ)

Invitation to Confession

In Exodus 3, The LORD says, "I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians...And... "now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt."

We encounter a God concerned for the helpless, the poor and the weak and a God who empowers humans for justice and mercy to set the oppressed free. While we may desire true freedom for all people, we have, through omission or commission, turned a blind eye to injustice and the evil of human trafficking. Therefore, let us turn to God and confess our sins together.

Confession

Lord, you have created each one of us in your own image. We confess that we have allowed your image to be distorted in the lives of many who are victims of injustice and trafficked both in our country and in others, forced for labor and subject to exploitation, losing the right to live fully - a life of dignity and worth. We have allowed for injustice through our ignorance and insensitivity. Please forgive us, and by the power of Spirit fill us with true compassion and love to do everything within our means and by your power to see that they are set free. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

God Almighty you are merciful. You forgive us for all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ. You strengthen our desire to work for justice. Your Spirit gives us courage to speak for the voiceless and to stand for the oppressed. Praise be to God, the Father, Jesus, the son and to the Holy Spirit who dwells in the hearts of those who love you.

Suggested Music

(Offered by Pastor Scott Womer, Terra Nova Church, Troy, NY)

Depth of Mercy

Come Ye Sinners

How Deep The Father's Love for Us

Lord Have Mercy

Take My Life and Let it Be

3. OUR RESPONSE

Sermon (Determined by Pastor)

(Our need to know Him more deeply)

Communion

(Our need for atonement)

Suggested Music

(Offered by Pastor Scott Womer, Terra Nova Church, Troy, NY)

Remedy (*David Crowder*)

All For Love (*Hillsongs*)

O The Deep Deep Love of Jesus

The Love of Christ is Rich and Free (*McCracken*)

Prayer for Love146

(Offered by Pastor Bert Crabbe, True North Community Church, Bohemia, NY)

Our heavenly Father, we thank You for Your great love for Your children all over the world, and for us.

We thank You for the work of Love146 who so zealously love Your children, and seek to embody both Your justice and Your mercy.

Bless their work. Protect their efforts.

Assign angels to watch over their offices and properties and grant them favor with governments, partners and supporters.

May their staff and volunteers walk in Your light and Your protection. May vulnerable children find refuge in You, through them. May victims find healing and restoration in You, through them.

May the perpetrators of evil know You, be convicted of their sin, repent and find Your love, Your unlimited forgiveness and redemption.

We thank You that while your justice demands punishment for all our sins, your mercies are new every morning.

Amen.

Offering

(Consider a special offering for Love146)

Benediction

(Offered by Rev. Karl Griswold-Kuhn, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Kinderhook, NY This may be done as a responsive prayer as below, or connect the "Leader" pieces together into one piece.)

Leader: May the One who is the very notion of goodness lead us in learning to do good,

People: Amen.

Leader: May He who is known as Lord and Judge, aid us in seeking justice,

People: Amen.

Leader: May the One who sets the captive free help in ending oppression,

People: Amen.

Leader: And may the peace of God which surpasses all human understanding keep your hearts and mind in the knowledge and Love of God and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, be with you this day and always Amen.

Suggested Closing Music

(Offered by Pastor Scott Womer, Terra Nova Church, Troy, NY)

Amazing Grace

Grace Like Rain (*Agnew*)

Mission's Flame (*Matt Redman*)

All The Poor and Powerless

Be Thou My Vision

How He Loves (*McMillan*)

Give Us Clean Hands

Jesus Paid It All