Generations Day

Music & Worship Resources

Sunday, July 7, 2013

Marty Austin Lamar, Guest Lectionary Liturgist
Assistant Director of Worship & Arts, Turner Memorial African Methodist Episcopal Church, Hyattsville, MD and

Edward D. Rockett Jr., Guest Lectionary Liturgist
Pastor, Greater Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church, Chicago, IL

Worship Planning Notes

The future of the Black Church, regardless of denominational affiliation, is a conversation that most believers has either engaged in or to which they have given thoughtful consideration. The struggle between the traditional and the contemporary in the Church can often cause great stress between the elders and the younger members of the church. The observance of Generations Day provides an opportunity for both celebration and conversation across generations.

It is extremely important that the focus of this day be centered on that which unites the body. Our belief in God and the sacrifice God made through God’s son, Jesus, must be at the center of worship; it unites us. While dialogue is needed and opinions must be expressed, worship of our God and our Savior must be at the center of this worship experience. However, the worship service and moments following it provide valuable opportunities for generations to engage one another in meaningful ways.
Creative Ideas to Integrate into the Worship Experience

- The following quote from the great George Washington Carver may be displayed on the cover of or included in the worship guide.

  “How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with aged, sympathetic with the thriving, and tolerant of the weak and strong. Because someday in life, you will have been all of these.” THE LORD WILLING!

- Compose a theme that reflects a generational focus and is inclusive. For example:

  FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION: We Will Worship God.

- On a Saturday prior to Generations Day, organize a day of dialogue. This fellowship can include team-building exercises, presentations concerning the history of the church, and dialogue concerning the present state of the ministries within the church. Allow the youth and young adults to be among the first of the church to express their concerns and desires for the ministries of the church.

1. Call to Worship and Litany

   Call to Worship

   **Leader:** Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations (Psalm 90:1).

   **All:** For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations (Psalm 100:5).

   **Leader:** But thou, O Lord, shalt endure forever; and thy remembrance unto all generations (Psalm 102:12).

   **All:** He hath remembered His covenant forever, the word which He commanded to a thousand generations (Psalm 105:8).

   **Leader:** God remembered and honored His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob as he established a nation and blessed her lineage forever and ever.

   **All:** For His mercy endureth forever.

   **Leader:** God remembered His covenant with Moses, Joshua, and the children of Israel as He delivered them from 400 years of slavery in Egypt and brought them into the Promised Land.

   **All:** For His mercy endureth forever.

   **Leader:** God remembered His covenant with the house of David, blessed his son Solomon, and established the bloodline for the coming Messiah, God incarnate, Jesus Christ our Lord.
All: For His mercy endureth forever.

Leader: From the coasts of Africa, through the Middle Passage, to the hush arbors of slavery through the Emancipation of peoples of African descent, You have remembered Your covenant and been our dwelling place from generation to generation.

All: For His mercy endureth forever.

Leader: We praise You now for the witness of the ancestors on whose shoulders we stand.

All: For Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, Mary McLeod Bethune, we praise your name.

Leader: For Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks, Medgar Evers, and all of the soldiers of the Civil Rights Movement, we praise your name. And now we re-establish a covenant with You that shall extend from this generation, and every generation, from now until the end of the earth.

All: The Lord shall reign forever, even thy God, O Zion, unto all generations. Praise ye the Lord! (Psalm 146:10).

Litany

Leader: Dear God, today we, Your children, youth, adults, and seniors celebrate the covenant that You made with Abraham, his descendants, and the generations yet to come.

People: We proclaim as You proclaimed that You are our God and the God of generations yet to come.

Leader: We pray that Your Holy Spirit will unite, lead, guide, and direct us by Your transforming power. We re-commit ourselves as a body of believers to dwell together, always being available and accepting of Your will and Your vision.

People: Make us one, Holy Spirit.

Leader: God, you have called us to be in covenant relationship with you and with each other. You have called us to maintain Godly relationships that transcend age and encourage respectful yet truthful dialogue that will impact generations of believers to come.

People: Open our hearts and ears, Holy Spirit.

Leader: Bind us in love, O God, so that our ministries might be a reflection of the grace and mercy that You have freely given to each us. Bind us with a love that will inspire us to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, remember the lonely, care for the sick, and embrace the outcasts.
People: Inspire us, Holy Spirit.

Leader: Remind us that we have all been children and that if it be Your will, we will all be seniors. Gracious God, cleanse our hearts so that our own doubts, fears, and judgmental natures will not impede our abilities to serve and progress in kingdom building, together.

People: Cleanse us, Holy Spirit.

Leader: God, you have called us to minister to the young and old alike. Whether in the hospital, the prison, the school, or the corner, remind us that the Church is the body of Christ beyond these walls.

People: God, prepare our minds and souls to be Your vessels, ever respectful and loving of one another.

Leader: Dear God, today we Your children, youth, adults, and seniors celebrate the covenant that you made with Abraham, his descendants, and the generations yet to come.

All: We proclaim as You proclaimed that you are our God and the God of generations yet to come.

2. Hymns and Congregational Songs
(a) We Gather Together to Ask the Lord’s Blessing. By Theodore Baker

(b) What a Fellowship. By Elisha A. Hoffman and Anthony J. Showalter

(c) There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit. By Doris Akers

3. Spirituals or Traditional Songs
(a) God Is. By Robert J. Fryson and Evelyn Simpson-Curenton

(b) I’m Gonna Sing ‘til the Spirit Moves in My Heart. By Moses Hogan

(c) Unity. Text and Tune by Glorraine Moone. Arr. by Daniel Mario Carson II

4. Songs for Praise Teams
(a) Everybody Praise. By Gerald Haddon

(b) Lord You Are Good. By Israel Houghton

(c) For Your Glory. By Paul S. Morton

5. Modern Songs
(a) Let’s Come Together. By Kevin LeVar

(b) We’ve Come to Lift You Up. By Gregory Booth
(c) Be Blessed. By Paul S. Morton

6. Liturgical Dance or Mime Ministry Music
(a) The Storm Is Over Now. By Rodney Boyden

(b) In This Place. By Darwin Hobbs

(c) Great Praise. By Stephen Hurd

7. Offertory Song or Instrumental
(a) Completely Yes. Text and Tune by Sandra Crouch. Arr. by Stephen Key

(b) Holy Spirit. By Richard Smallwood

(c) Be a Worship. By David Frazier

8. Song or Instrumental for the Period of Prayer
(a) Awesome. By Charles Jenkins

(b) All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name. By Edward Perronet. Tune, (CORONATION).

(c) The Prayer of Jabez. By Donald Lawrence

9. Sermonic Selection
(a) I Speak Life. By Donald Lawrence

(b) Faithful Is Our God. By Hezekiah Walker

(c) We Are Not Ashamed. By Andraé Crouch

10. Invitational Song or Instrumental
(a) We Offer Christ to You. By Paul S. Morton

(b) It’s Time to Make a Change. By Jay Terrell and Maurice Watson

(c) There’s a Lifting of the Hands. By Israel Houghton

11. Benediction Song or Instrumental
(a) I Need You to Survive. By Hezekiah Walker

(b) Let the Church Say Amen. By Andraé Crouch

(c) God Be with You. Text and Tune by Thomas A. Dorsey

12. Anthems
(a) Let Mt Zion Rejoice. By J.B. Herbert

(b) A Mighty Fortress Is Our God. By Martin Luther. Tune by Carl F. Muller

(c) Christ Will Be Lifted Up. By Mary McDonald
Cites and Additional Information for Music and Material Listed

1. **Litany** by The Leadership of the Washington Annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Bishop William Phillips DeVeaux, Sr., Area Bishop. Adapted by Marty Austin Lamar

**Call to Worship** by Rev. Edward D. Rockett, Jr.

2. **Hymns and Congregational Songs**
   (a) *We Gather Together to Ask the Lord’s Blessing.* By Theodore Baker
   Location:
   Online location: www.hymnalplus.com

   (b) *What a Fellowship.* By Elisha A. Hoffman and Anthony J. Showalter
   Location:
   - African American Heritage Hymnal. #371
   - African Methodist Episcopal Church Hymnal. #525

   (c) *There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit.* By Doris Akers
   Location:
   - African American Heritage Hymnal. #326
   - African Methodist Episcopal Church Hymnal. #196

3. **Spirituals or Traditional Songs**
   (a) *God Is.* By Dr. Robert J. Fryson and Evelyn Simpson-Curenton
   Location:
   - African American Heritage Hymnal. #134

   (b) *I’m Gonna Sing ‘til the Spirit Moves in My Heart.* By Moses Hogan
   Location:
   - J. W. Pepper & Sons Incorporated
     2480 Industrial Boulevard
     Paoli, PA 19301
     Phone: 1-800-345-6298
   Online location: www.jwpepper.com

   (c) *Unity.* Text and Tune by Glorraine Moone. Arr. by Daniel Mario Carson II
   Location:
   - African American Heritage Hymnal. #338
4. **Songs for Praise Teams**
   (a) Everybody Praise. By Gerald Haddon
   Location:

   (b) Lord You Are Good. By Israel Houghton
   Location:

   (c) For Your Glory. By Paul S. Morton
   Location:
   Bishop Paul S. Morton Presents The Full Gospel Fellowship Baptist Church:

5. **Modern Songs**
   (a) Let’s Come Together. By Kevin LeVar
   Location:
   Kevin Levar & One Sound—Let’s Come Together. Baltimore, MD: Habakkuk

   (b) We’ve Come to Lift You Up. By Gregory Booth
   Location:
   Records, 2005.

   (c) Be Blessed. By Paul S. Morton
   Location:

6. **Liturgical Dance or Mime Ministry Music**
   (a) The Storm Is Over Now. By Rodney Boyden
   Location:

   (b) In This Place. By Darwin Hobbs
   Location:

   (c) Great Praise. By Stephen Hurd
   Location:

7. **Offertory Song or Instrumental**
   (a) Completely Yes. Text and Tune by Sandra Crouch. Arr. by Stephen Key
   Location:
   African American Heritage Hymnal. #551
   Church of God Christ. Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. Memphis,
(b) Holy Spirit. By Richard Smallwood
Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #319

(c) Be a Worship. By David Frazier
Location:

8. Song or Instrumental for the Period of Prayer
(a) Awesome. By Charles Jenkins
Location:

(b) All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name. By Edward Perronet. Tune, (CORONATION). Location:
African Methodist Episcopal Church Hymnal. #4

(c) The Prayer of Jabez. By Donald Lawrence
Location:

9. Sermonic Selection
(a) I Speak Life. By Donald Lawrence
Location:

(b) Faithful Is Our God. By Hezekiah Walker
Location:

(c) We Are Not Ashamed. By Andraé Crouch
Location:

10. Invitational Song or Instrumental
(a) We Offer Christ to You. By Paul S. Morton
Location:

(b) It’s Time to Make a Change. By Jay Terrell and Maurice Watson
Location:
Beulahland Bible Church
11. Benediction Song or Instrumental
(a) I Need You to Survive. By Hezekiah Walker
Location:

(b) Let the Church Say Amen. By Andraé Crouch
Location:

(c) God Be with You. Text and Tune by Thomas A. Dorsey
Location:
African American Heritage Hymnal. #639

12. Anthems
(a) Let Mt Zion Rejoice. By J.B. Herbert
Location:
Lorenz Publishing Company
Available through Sheet Music Plus
1300 64th Street
Emeryville, CA 94608
Phone: 1-800-742-3868

Online location: www.sheetmusicplus.com

(b) A Mighty Fortress Is Our God. By Martin Luther. Tune by Carl F. Muller
Location:
J. W. Pepper & Sons Incorporated
Phone: 1-800-345-6298
Online location: www.jwpepper.com

(c) Christ Will Be Lifted Up. By Mary McDonald
Location:
Jesus Shall Reign: A Tenebrae Worship
Dayton, Ohio: Monarch Music, A Division of The Lorenz Publishing Corporation
Available through Sheet Music Plus
Phone: 1-800-743-3868
Online location: www.sheetmusicplus.com