CELEBRATION OF VOCATIONS (LABOR DAY)

MUSIC & WORSHIP RESOURCES

Sunday, September 6, 2009

A. Marquis Williams, Sr., Guest Lectionary Liturgist
Musician and instructor in Glen Burnie, Maryland

Worship Planning Notes

• Encourage your congregation to realize that their behavior and attitudes in the workplace reflect upon their discipleship. They should take God with them as they go about their daily work routines.

• Worship planners should work to ensure that this is a celebration of work. Screens should display work Scriptures. The bulletin/order of worship should contain information to help persons who need work.

• Consider planning a job fair either on this day after worship or on Saturday, September 5. Do not do it alone. Work with other churches, city entities, unions, and schools. Make it big. Your community needs it.
1. Responsive Reading or Invocation

(a) Responsive Reading

**Warning against Idleness**

Leader: Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us.

Congregation: For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone’s bread without paying for it;

Leader: But with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you.

Congregation: This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate.

Leader: For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat.

Congregation: For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work.

Leader: Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.

Together: Brothers and sisters do not be weary in doing what is right.

(b)Invocation

We are your people and the sheep of your pasture. We come to this celebration with thanksgiving and praise. On this day when we celebrate work, we pray for those who would like to work and cannot. We pray for employers that they would remember the poor more than the bottom line. Grant us the wisdom to understand our choice to serve you. Teach us to use our gifts and our good fortune to glorify your name. Assist us in our endeavor to be more like you. As we continue to labor in this vineyard grant us more love. We honor you, we worship you, and we adore you. Let all that we do enhance your purposes. Amen.

2. Hymns and Congregational Songs

(a) Come, Christians, Join to Sing. By Christian H. Bateman. Arr. by Stan Pethel

(b) How Firm a Foundation. Text: 2 Peter 1:4; “K” in Rippon’s A Selection of Hymns. Tune, Foundation

(c) To Worship Work and Witness. By Henry L. Lambdin. Tune, (Stand Up for Jesus)
by George W. Webb

(d) Use Me, O Lord. By Virgie C. DeWitty

(e) Work, for the Night Is Coming. By Annie L. Coghill. Tune, (Work Song) by Lowell Mason

3. Spirituals or Traditional Songs
(a) Ain’t Got Time to Die. By Hall Johnson. For SATB

(b) Don’t You Let Nobody Turn You ‘Round. Arr. by Phillip McIntyre

(c) Hold On. Arr. by Jester Hairston

(d) Lord I’m out Here on Your Word. By John W. Work. For SAATB with tenor solo

(e) Lord I’m Trusting. By Chester D. T. Baldwin

4. Gospel Songs for Choirs, Ensembles, or Praise Teams
(a) I Will Bless the Lord. By Shirley Berkeley

(b) Say the Name. By Martha Munizzi and Clint Brown

(c) You Deserve the Glory. By Terry MacAlmon

5. Liturgical Dance or Mime Music
How Great Thou Art. Arr. by Omar Dickenson

6. Anthems
(a) A Jubilant Song. By Allen Pote

(b) Wait on the Lord. By Willis Barnett

(c) We Sing with Joy. By Marvin Curtis

7. Modern Songs
(a) God Is a Good God. By Paul S. Morton

(b) My Help (Cometh from the Lord). By Jackie G. Farris. Arr. by Carol Cymbala

(c) Sanctify Me. By V. Michael McKay

8. Offering Song or Instrumental
(a) Lord, Here Am I. By John Ness Beck

(b) Only What You Do for Christ. By Raymond Rasberry. Arr. by Glen Woodward
(c) My Offering. By James Bignon

9. **Song or Instrumental for the Period of Prayer**
   (a) He’s Working It Out for Your Good. By Kevon Carter

   (b) Acceptable to You. By Eli Wilson, Jr.

10. **Sermonic Selection**
    (a) Is There a Word from the Lord? By Glenn Burleigh

    (b) Lord I Thirst for You. By Gary E. Sadler

    (c) We Need to Hear from You. By Sandra Crouch

11. **Invitation Song or Instrumental**
    (a) The Decision. By V. Michael McKay

    (b) Down at the Altar. By Joe Pace II

    (c) His Yoke Is Easy. By Glenn Burleigh

    (d) Only Jesus Can Save Your Soul. By Tony Wilkins and Donald Taylor

12. **Benediction Song or Instrumental**
    (a) All Day Long. By Carlton L. Fellows

    (b) God Gets the Glory. By David Curry and Steve Harrison

    (c) My Peace I Leave with You. By Wendell C. Woods

13. **Other Recommendations**
    (a) Develop a skit centered on how Christians can positively impact the workplace experience. This could be a good project to use to incorporate younger participants in the worship experience.

    (b) Include the following poem(s) in church bulletins or play on screens:

   **The Night Cometh**

   Work! for the night is coming;
   Work! through the morning hours;
   Work! while the dew is sparkling;
   Work! ‘mid the springing flowers;
   Work! while the day grows brighter,
   Under the glowing sun;
Work! for the night is coming,--
Night, when man’s work is done.

Work! for the night is coming;
Work! through the sunny noon;
Fill the bright hours with labour,
Rest cometh sure and soon.
Give to each flying minute
Something to keep in store;
Work! for the night is coming,--
Night, when man works no more.

Work! for the night is coming;
Under the sunset skies,
While their bright tints are glowing,
Work! for the daylight flies;
Work! till the last beam fadeth,
Fadeth to shine no more;
Work! while the night is darkening,--
Night, when man’s work is o’er.

God’s At Work
Be still, be quiet and you shall see, the hand of the God of eternity.
Just be still and know He is God, shepherding all with staff and rod.
He’s at work throughout your life; He’s the comfort in pain and strife.
And when a problem won’t relent, God is there with encouragement.
He’s at work in the darkest night; for God is for you that guiding light.

He guides you with a loving nod, protecting you on this earthly sod.
God’s at work in all of His own, as He guides us to an eternal home.
Even if you do not see God’s hand, simply be still then understand,
God doesn’t move like you or me, He moves throughout all eternity.
Starting before the beginning friend, and His presence will not end.

He doesn’t work on earthly time; God’s timely measures are divine.
God’s been working in lives of men, since that pair was condemned.
God has been working to rectify, the problem created by Satan’s lie.
Friend it isn’t that God is slow, He’s just patient so that all can know,
the problem of Satan was rectified, on the cross, when Jesus died.

Now, He’s at work in believers friends helping others to comprehend,
the saving Truth of Jesus Christ, so that they can gain Eternal Life.
With a new life in Christ you’ll see, how He’s at work in you and me.
Let Christ Jesus in your heart, and a new work in you God will start.
God’s work will be done in ways that fill your heart with eternal praise.
Cites and Additional Information for Music and Material Listed

1. Responsive Reading or Invocation
   (a) Responsive Reading based on 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

   (b) Invocation by A. Marquis Williams, Sr.

2. Hymns or Congregational Songs
   (a) Come, Christians, Join to Sing. By Christian H. Bateman. Arr. by Stan Pethel
      Location:
      Hope Publishing Company
      380 S Main Place
      Carol Stream, IL 60188
      Phone: 1-800-323-1049

      Online location: www.hopepublishing.com

   (b) How Firm a Foundation. Text: 2 Peter 1:4; “K” in Rippon’s A Selection of Hymns.
      Tune, Foundation
      Location:

   (c) To Worship Work and Witness. By Henry L. Lambdin. Tune, (Stand Up for Jesus) by George W. Webb
      Location:
      The New National Baptist Hymnal. #423

   (d) Use Me, O Lord. By Virgie C. DeWitty
      Location:

   (e) Work, for the Night Is Coming. By Annie L. Coghill. Tune, (Work Song) by Lowell Mason
      Location:
      National Baptist Hymnal. #424
      Favorite Hymns of Praise. Chicago, IL: Tabernacle Publishing Company, 1972. #120

3. Spirituals and Traditional Songs
   (a) Ain’t Got Time to Die. By Hall Johnson. For SATB
      Location:
(b) Don’t You Let Nobody Turn You ‘Round. Arr. by Phillip McIntyre
Location:
Mark Foster Music Series (1987)
The Sheet Music Store
5348 N. Tacoma Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46220
Phone: 317-225-4617

Online location: www.music44.com

(c) Hold On. Arr. by Jester Hairston
Location:
Published by Bourne Co. Music Publishers
5 West 37th Street
New York, NY 10018
Phone: 212-391-4300

Online location: www.bournemusic.com

(d) Lord I’m out Here on Your Word. By John W. Work. For SAATB with tenor solo
Location:
Galaxy Music Corporation
138 Ipswich Street
Boston, MA 02215-3534
Phone: 1-800-777-1919

Online location: www.ecspublishing.com

(e) Lord I’m Trusting. By Chester D. T. Baldwin
Location:

4. Gospel Songs for Choirs, Ensembles, or Praise Teams
(a) I Will Bless the Lord. By Shirley Berkeley
Location:
African American Heritage Hymnal. #121

(b) Say the Name. By Martha Munizzi and Clint Brown
Location:

(c) You Deserve the Glory. By Terry MacAlmon
Location:

5. Liturgical Dance or Mime Music
How Great Thou Art. Arr. by Omar Dickenson
Location:
McKissick, Rudolph Jr. & The Word and Worship Mass Choir. _What a Time!_

6. Anthems
(a) A Jubilant Song. By Allen Pote
Location:
Hope Publishing Company
Phone: 1-800-323-1049
Online location: [www.hopepublishing.com](http://www.hopepublishing.com)

Sheet Music Plus
1300 64<sup>th</sup> Street
Emeryville, CA 94608

Online location: [www.sheetmusicplus.com](http://www.sheetmusicplus.com)

(b) Wait on the Lord. By Willis Barnett
Location:
GIA Publications, Inc.
7404 South Mason Avenue
Chicago, IL 60638
Phone: 1-800-GIA-1358

Online location: [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com)

(c) We Sing with Joy. By Marvin Curtis
Location:
Mark Foster Music at
Shawnee Press, Inc.
1107 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue South
Nashville, TN 37212
Phone: 1-800-962-8584

Online location: sales@shawneepress.com
7. Modern Songs
(a) God Is a Good God. By Paul S. Morton  
Location: 

(b) My Help (Cometh from the Lord). By Jackie G. Farris. Arr. by Carol Cymbala  
Location: 

(c) Sanctify Me. By V. Michael McKay  
Location: 
GIA Publications, Inc.  
Phone: 1-800-GIA-1358  
Online location: www.giamusic.com

8. Offering Song or Instrumental
(a) Lord, Here Am I. By John Ness Beck  
Location: 
Beckenhorst Press, Inc.  
960 Old Henderson Road  
Columbus, OH 43220  
Phone: 614-451-6461  
Online location: www.beckenhorstpress.com

(b) Only What You Do for Christ. By Raymond Rasberry. Arr. by Glen Woodward  
Location: 

(c) My Offering. By James Bignon  
Location: 

NTIME MUSIC COMPANY  
4913 Albemarle Road #103  
Charlotte, NC 28205  
Phone: 704-531-8961  
Online location: www.ntimemusic.com

9. Song or Instrumental for the Period of Prayer
(a) He’s Working It Out for Your Good. By Kevon Carter  
Location:

(b) Acceptable to You. By Eli Wilson, Jr.
Location:
   African American Heritage Hymnal. #390

10. Sermonic Selection
   (a) Is There a Word from the Lord? By Glenn Burleigh
   Location:
       Ntime Music Company
       Phone: 704-531-8961
       Online location: www.ntimemusic.com

   (b) Lord I Thirst for You. By Gary E. Sadler
   Location:

   (c) We Need to Hear from You. By Sandra Crouch
   Location:

11. Invitation Song or Instrumental
   (a) The Decision. By V. Michael McKay
   Location:
       African American Heritage Hymnal. #388

   (b) Down at the Altar. By Joe Pace II
   Location:

   (c) His Yoke Is Easy By Glenn Burleigh. From Born To Die, Opus 25
   Location:
       Glenn Burleigh Music Workshop
       P.O. Box 16091
       Oklahoma City, OK 73113
       Phone: 405-842-3470 or 405-232-7477

       Online Location: www.glenmusik.com

   (d) Only Jesus Can Save Your Soul. By Tony Wilkins and Donald Taylor
   Location:
12. Benediction Song or Instrumental
(a) All Day Long. By Carlton L. Fellows
Location:
   GMWA Women of Worship. Jesus Is the Name! Brentwood, TN: Chordant

(b) God Gets the Glory. By David Curry and Steve Harrison
Location:
   Mississippi Mass Choir. God Gets the Glory. Jackson, MS: Malaco Records,

(c) My Peace I Leave with You. By Wendell C. Woods
Location:
   GIA Publications, Inc.
   Phone: 1-800-GIA-1358
   Online location: www.giamusic.com

13. Other Recommendations
(b) Poems
The Night Cometh. By Annie Louisa Walker
Online location: www.poemhunter.com/poem/the-night-cometh-2

God’s At Work. By Bob Gotti
Online location: www.poemhunter.com/poem/god-s-at-work