



Usher's Day

MUSIC & WORSHIP RESOURCES

Sunday, July 18, 2010

Nolan Williams, Jr., Lectionary Team Liturgist; Kenneth Mosley, Assistant Liturgist; and J. Anthony Plenty, Assistant Liturgist

Worship Planning Notes

The Old Testament passage, 2 Kings 22:3-6, is one of the few that mentions the work performed by ushers. Ushers are those who are “keepers of the threshold.” Their role was to collect money from the people for the upkeep of the temple. Today, we honor our modern-day ushers who, in addition to collecting money from persons for the upkeep of the church, do so much to enhance our worship experience.

Ideas for Usher's Day During Your Morning Worship

- Plan ahead so that members of other auxiliaries serve as ushers today. Allow enough time for today's stand-in ushers to be prepared so that visitors will not notice any change in the level of professionalism and friendliness they are shown.
- To make the day fun, have the stand-in ushers wear pins that say: **Stand-In Usher**.
- Salute the presidents of all church usher boards as appropriate.
- Have all ushers seated together and wearing corsages or boutonnieres provided by the pastor.
- Honor each usher by name and have them stand as their names is called.

- During the offering, have a “Special Usher’s March” led by the stand-in ushers followed by your real church ushers. Make the march lively by playing upbeat music and having the entire congregation stand for this special march.

1. Call to Worship, Centering Prayer, and Litany

Call to Worship

2 Kings 22:3-6, NRSV

22:3 In the eighteenth year of King Josiah, the king sent Shaphan son of Azaliah, son of Meshullam, the secretary, to the house of the LORD, saying,

22:4 “Go up to the high priest Hilkiah, and have him count the entire sum of the money that has been brought into the house of the LORD, which the keepers of the threshold have collected from the people;

22:5 let it be given into the hand of the workers who have the oversight of the house of the LORD; let them give it to the workers who are at the house of the LORD, repairing the house,

22:6 that is, to the carpenters, to the builders, to the masons; and let them use it to buy timber and quarried stone to repair the house.”

Centering Prayer

O God, we seize this opportunity to celebrate those who serve us diligently. As we appreciate their service, we also spend these passing moments to reflect on our own opportunities to serve you and your people. May our lives be full of gratitude and service, for they go hand in hand. We are grateful, therefore, we serve. And for the opportunity to serve, we are grateful. Amen.

Litany—Usher’s Day

Leader: We **U**nderstand that before we enter the Sanctuary, there are those who have prepared the temple for worship.

People: We honor their **S**ervice, and praise God for their accepting the call to serve as door-keepers and welcome us into the Holy place.

Leader: The caretaking of the temple door is a sacred trust, never to be undervalued, always to be **H**allowed.

People: God has **E**ntrusted ushers with a noble duty and his work is a divine assignment.

Leader: With praise, we acknowledge their preparedness; with gratitude, we appreciate their gifts and sacrifice. With **R**eference, we honor the doorkeepers of God’s House!

All: And we pray God's manifold blessings upon their individual lives and collective ministry on this their **Special** day.

2. Hymns and Congregational Songs

- (a) Where He Leads Me. By E. W. Blandy. Tune by John S. Norris
- (b) Lead Me, Guide Me. By Doris M. Akers. Tune by Doris M. Akers
- (c) Let Jesus Lead You. Traditional

3. Spirituals or Traditional Songs

- (a) This Little Light of Mine. Spiritual
- (b) Somebody's Knockin'. Spiritual
- (c) Shut De Do'. By Randy Stonehill

4. Gospel Songs for Choirs, Ensembles, or Praise Teams

- (a) Welcome into This Place. By Orlando Jaurez
- (b) Everybody Praise. By Tammi Haddon and Gerald Haddon
- (c) Welcome. By Dathan Thigpen

5. Liturgical Dance Music

- (a) I've Seen Him Work. By Virgil Straford and Benita Washington
- (b) Usher Me. By T. D. Jakes and Donald Lawrence
- (c) Lead Me to Rest. By Keith Lancaster

6. Anthems

- (a) Bless This House. By May Morgan and Helen Taylor
- (b) It Pays to Serve Jesus. Arr. by Nathan Carter
- (c) The Best of Rooms. By Randall Thompson
- (d) The Call. By Kirk Kirkland. Arr. by Nan Allen and Dennis Allen
- (e) Sanctuary. By Bruce Greer

7. Modern Songs

- (a) It's Better to Help Somebody. By Michael Mathis
- (b) Lead Me through the Night. By Paul Baloche and Don Moen

(c) Enter In. By Joseph Pace, II

8. Offertory Song or Instrumental

(a) What a Fellowship. Text by Elisha Hoffman. Arr. by Laythan Armor, Donald Taylor, and Tony Wilkins

(b) When God's Children Get Together. By David Curry

(c) Keep Oil in Your Lamp. By David Curry and Jerry Mannery

9. Song or Instrumental for the Period of Prayer

(a) Please Be Patient with Me. By Curtis Burrell

(b) Lead Me to the Cross. By Brook Fraser

(c) You Don't Look Like. By Deon Kipping

10. Sermonic Selection

(a) Walk in the Light. By Thomas Whitfield

(b) Set the Atmosphere. By Kurt Carr

(c) Lead Me to the Rock. By Stephen Hurd

11. Invitational Song or Instrumental

(a) One More Time. By James Moore

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

(c) Let Jesus Lead You. Anonymous

12. Benediction Song or Instrumental

(a) A Good Day. Anonymous

(b) Hand in Hand. By Steve Angrisano

(c) Let Jesus Lead You. By Donnie Harper

Cites and Additional Information for Music and Material Listed

1. Call to Worship, Centering Prayer, and Litany. By Nolan Williams, Jr. and Kenneth Mosley

2. Hymns and Congregational Songs

(a) Where He Leads Me. Text by E. W. Blandy. Tune by John S. Norris

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 2001. #550

African Methodist Episcopal Zion Bicentennial Hymnal. Nashville, TN: A.M.E. Zion Publishing House, 1996. #631

National Baptist Publishing Board. The New National Baptist Hymnal. Nashville, TN: National Baptist Pub. Board, 1981. #168

Church of God in Christ. Yes, Lord! Church of God in Christ Hymnal. Memphis, TN: Church of God in Christ Pub. Board in association with the Benson Co., 1982. #409

(b) Lead Me, Guide Me. By Doris M. Akers. Tune by Doris M. Akers

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #474

Lead Me, Guide Me: The African American Catholic Hymnal. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications, 1987. #168.

The New National Baptist Hymnal. #355

(c) Let Jesus Lead You. Traditional

Location:

The Williams Brothers. The Concert. Jackson, MS: Blackberry, 2000.

3. Spirituals or Traditional Songs

(a) This Little Light of Mine. Spiritual

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #549

(b) Somebody's Knockin'. Spiritual

Location:

African American Heritage Hymnal. #348

(c) Shut De Do'. By Randy Stonehill

Location:

Lawrence, Donald & the Tri-City Singers. A Songwriter's Point of View. Inglewood, CA: Gospocentric, 1993.

4. Gospel Songs for Choirs, Ensembles, or Praise Teams

(a) Welcome into This Place. By Orlando Jaurez

Location:

Carman. High Praises, Vol. 1. Brentwood, TN: Sparrow, 1991.

(b) Everybody Praise. By Tammi Haddon and Gerald Haddon

Location:

The City of Refuge Sanctuary Choir. Welcome to the City. Indianapolis, IN: Tyscot, 2007.

(c) Welcome. By Dathan Thigpen

Location:

Thigpen, Dathan & Holy Nation. Get Up, Vol. 1: Get Exposed to Unadulterated Praise. London/Marseille, United Kingdom: Dominion, 2006.

5. Liturgical Dance Music

(a) I've Seen Him Work. By Virgil Straford and Benita Washington

Location:

Washington, Benita. Renaissance. Newark, DE: ReddApple Seed, 2007.

(b) Usher Me. By T. D. Jakes and Donald Lawrence

Location:

Lawrence, Donald. Go Get Your Life Back. Nashville, TN: EMI Gospel, 2002.

(c) Lead Me to Rest. By Keith Lancaster

Location:

Acapella. Set Me Free. New York, NY: The Acapella Co/Word, 1993.

6. Anthems

(a) Bless This House. By May Morgan and Helen Taylor

Location:

J. W. Pepper & Sons Incorporated
2480 Industrial Boulevard
Paoli, PA 19301
Phone: 1-800-345-6296

Online location: www.jwpepper.com

(b) It Pays to Serve Jesus. By Frank C. Houston. Arr. by Nathan Carter

Location:

Online location: www.gia.music

(c) The Best of Rooms. By Randall Thompson

Location:

J. W. Pepper & Sons Incorporated
Phone: 1-800-345-6296
Online location: www.jwpepper.com

(d) The Call. By Kirk Kirkland. Arr. by Nan Allen and Dennis Allen

Location:

The Call
Available from Lillenas Publishing Company

2923 Troost
Kansas City, MO 64109
Phone: 816-931-1900

Online location: <http://www.lillenas.com>

(e) Sanctuary. By Bruce Greer

Location:

Sanctuary

Available from Lillenas Publishing Company

Phone: 816-931-1900

Online location: <http://www.lillenas.com>

7. Modern Songs

(a) It's Better to Help Somebody. By Michael Mathis

Location:

Norwood, Dorothy. Feel Like... Live with the Georgia Mass Choir. Jackson, MS: Malaco, 1994.

(b) Lead Me through the Night. By Paul Baloche and Don Moen

Location:

Moen, Don. Hiding Place. New York, NY: Integrity/Columbia, 2006.

(c) Enter In. By Joseph Pace, II

Location:

Pace, Joe. Joe Pace Presents: Sunday Morning Service. New York, NY: Integrity Gospel/Epic, 2004.

8. Offertory Song or Instrumental

(a) What a Fellowship. Text by Elisha Hoffman. Arr. by Laythan Armor, Donald Taylor, and Tony Wilkins

Location:

LA Mass Choir. Come as You Are. Nashville, TN: Light, 1992.

(b) When God's Children Get Together. By David Curry

Location:

Mississippi Mass Choir. I'll See You in the Rapture. Jackson, MS: Malaco, 1996.

(c) Keep Oil in Your Lamp. By David Curry and Jerry Mannery

Location:

Mississippi Mass Choir. I'll See You in the Rapture. Jackson, MS: Malaco, 1996.

9. Song or Instrumental for the Period of Prayer

(a) Please Be Patient with Me. By Curtis Burrell

Location:

Walker, Albertina. Please Be Patient with Me. Japan: Savoy, 1990.

(b) Lead Me to the Cross. By Brook Fraser

Location:

Hillsong United. All of the Above. Australia: Hillsong, 2007.

(c) You Don't Look Like. By Deon Kipping

Location:

Kipping, Deon & New Covenant. Real Life. Real Worship. Bridgeport, CT: Love and Life Entertainment, 2006.

10. Sermonic Selection

(a) Walk in the Light. By Thomas Whitfield

Location:

Whitfield, Thomas & The Thomas Whitfield Company. Hallelujah Anyhow!
Detroit, MI: Sounds of Gospel, 1984.

(b) Set the Atmosphere. By Kurt Carr

Location:

Awesome Wonder. Inglewood, CA: Gospocentric, 2000.

(c) Lead Me to the Rock. By Stephen Hurd

Location:

A Call to Worship: Live in DC. New York, NY: Integrity Gospel, Epic, Sony Urban, 2004.

11. Invitational Song or Instrumental

(a) One More Time. By James Moore

Location:

Live at Jackson State. Jackson, MS: Malaco, 1995.

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

Location:

Pace, Joe. Joe Pace Presents: Sunday Morning Service. Mobile, AL: Integrity Gospel/Epic, 2004.

(c) Let Jesus Lead You. Anonymous

Location:

Bradford, Alex. Rainbow in the Sky. Los Angeles, CA: Specialty, 1953–1958.

12. Benediction Song or Instrumental

(a) A Good Day. Anonymous

Location:

Cleveland, James. The Lord Is My Light. New York, NY: BMG, 2003.

(b) Hand in Hand. By Steve Angrisano

Location:

You Are the Way. Portland, OR: OCP Publications, 1999.

Octavo score available at <http://www.spiritandsong.com/products/11757>

(c) Let Jesus Lead You. By Donnie Harper

Location:

New Jersey Mass Choir. Hold Up the Light. Nashville, TN: Light, 1987.