

RESPONDING TO THE CALL

Luke 10:25-37 // Morning Prayer

In this morning prayer service we return to the story of the Good Samaritan and ask, "How can God's people serve God in the world?" Here are some materials to get you started creating your own worship service.

MAIN THEME: *The Church of God in the World*

CHOOSING MUSIC // FOR SINGING

- ✪ **Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated** [Key of F]
Text: Frances R. Havergal
Music: Henri A. Cesar Malan

- ✪ **O Church Arise** [Key of D]
Text and Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend
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- ✪ **Light of the World** [Key of B]
Text and Music: Matt Redman
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CREATING DRAMA // FOR HEARING

You may want to use youth in your congregation to act out the story of the Good Samaritan. You can write your own script based on the scripture or use a script like **"The Good Samaritan"** from Readers Theater All Year. [www.readerstheaterallyear.com]

FINDING ART // FOR SEEING

We suggest using photos in your worship service to show your worshippers other cultures they can serve. Below are some images by Alexander Pedigo, a photographer based New York City. Due to his love for both the foreign and the familiar, his photographs strive to connect and impact people in the same way he is impacted in capturing them. These photos capture several scenes from northern India. You might ask worshippers to find photos or bring their own from foreign countries.



LIVING WORSHIP // FOR DOING

Invite your worshippers to research a particular country in a foreign continent later in the day. Challenge them to learn about that country's culture, struggles, joys, and way of life. Invite them to pray consistently and specifically for that country over the coming weeks and months.

MAKING SPACE // FOR WORSHIPING

Because the service focuses on the church being the hands of God in the world, decorate your worship space with art, photos, or artifacts from various countries. These can be used to remind your worshippers of the greatness of God, and the world God created.

WRITING POETRY// FOR PRAYING

You might use the writings of the early Christians to enforce the depth of the Christian tradition. The following quote is of Saint Augustine of Hippo, a 4-5th century theologian and philosopher who wrote several key texts in the early formation of the church.

*“What does love look like?
It has the hands to help others.
It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy.
It has eyes to see the misery and want.
It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men.
That is what love looks like.”*

SAMPLE WORSHIP SERVICE

*Morning Prayer // Luke 10:25-37 // Responding to the Call
[Silent Gathering]*

SONG OF HOLINESS

Take Time to Be Holy

Words: William D. Longstaff

Music: George C. Stebbins

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Holy, Holy, Holy

Words: Reginald Heber

Music: John B. Dykes

Public Domain

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Luke 10:25-37

*Introduce by saying "Listen for the Word of God."
Read the passage two times. The first time, the
passage is read at a normal pace. The second
time, the passage is read much slower. Pause
between the two readings.*

LISTENING TO GOD'S VOICE

10 minutes of silence is observed

SUNG PRAYER

Sung Refrain: *O Lord, Hear Our Prayer*

Words and Music: Taizé Community

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PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

One: Sovereign God, we give you thanks for calling us your children and for entrusting us with the care of your world.

ALL: **Help us to feel the many textures of your global tapestry. Unstop our ears, that we may hear your world spoken in many languages. Breathe into us the sweet aromas of life, that we may taste the fruits of your reign.**

One: Even now, Lord, even in Asia, so vast, so deeply rooted in

tradition; where your church is small, but where religion is great, **Lord, teach us respect. Help us learn from those who express faith in you in different ways. Deepen our understanding of customs that are unfamiliar. Help us discover new ways to witness in this ancient land.**

ALL:

[Sung refrain]

One: Even now, Lord, even in the Middle East, the cradle of the church, the land many faiths call holy, and now the place where the pain of the cross is so vivid, where the dry earth is watered by the tears of suffering.

ALL: **Free your people from their warring madness. Teach us mutual respect, that the captives might be freed and the frightened might be comforted.**

One: Even now, Lord, even in Latin America, where your church stands faithfully with the weak and the poor, where martyrs are made and drugs dictate, where we are paying for the sins of our past,

ALL: **bring peace to our neighbors, O Lord. Tear down the barriers that divide and build bridges that bring people together for the common good.**

[Sung refrain]

One: Even now, Lord, even in Africa, where your church grows rapidly, where faith is exuberant, but

where there is famine and oppression,
ALL: **break the cycle of suffering among our sisters and brothers and help us to respond to their needs in ways that bring your message of hope to those who languish in despair.**

One: Even now, Lord, even in North America, where so much affluence causes so much indifference — North America, the land with so much to give yet a land held prisoner by its possessions —

ALL: **help us to assume the role of a servant, as Jesus did. Open our eyes to all parts of your creation even now, Lord, even if what we see frightens us. And help us to trust you to guide us as we act faithfully.**

[Sung refrain]

One: And now, we pray as you taught, saying:

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 debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

Words: John Woods; used with permission

CALL TO SERVICE

Take My Life and Let It Be

Words: Frances R. Havergal

Music: Henri A. Cesar Malanq

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BENEDICTION

One: Almighty God, bless us and direct our days in deeds in peace.

All: **Amen.**

One: Bless the Lord.

All: **The Lord's name be praised.**

SIGN OF PEACE

The greeting of peace shared by all.