

A LENTEN LITURGY

GATHERING

Gathering Song God welcomes all,
strangers and friends;
God's love is strong
and it never ends. *(S Africa)*
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Opening Responses

Leader: The servant is coming whom God upholds,
the chosen one in whom God delights.

ALL: ON HIM GOD'S SPIRIT FIRMLY RESTS,
BY HIM GOD'S JUSTICE WILL BE DONE.

Leader: He will not shout or raise his voice,

ALL: HE WILL NOT FALTER OR BE CRUSHED.

Leader: In him God's holy arm is bared,

ALL: THROUGH HIM GOD'S SURE SALVATION COMES.

Leader: Then let the watchers shout for joy
and let the wasted places sing:

ALL: NOW IS THE TIME FOR DELIVERANCE!
NOW EARTH'S REDEEMER HAS COME!

Song Malembe *(Democratic Republic of Congo)*
original words © 2012 Joseph Kabemba Mwenze, Kinshasa;
trans. Carolyn Kappauf, © copyright control

Cantor: As long as we *live*, there is a future for creation

ALL: A FUTURE FOR THE UNIVERSE.

(repeated)

WE KNOW THIS, WE KNOW THIS,
WE KNOW GOD'S KINGDOM: IT WILL COME.

(repeated)

Prayer of Approach

Leader: Gracious God,
if we came to your house,
we would find the door open,
because there are no closing hours
for the hospitality of heaven.

ALL: IF WE CAME TO YOUR HOUSE,
WE WOULD HEAR MANY ACCENTS,
OURS JUST ONE AMONG THEM,
FOR THERE IS NO FAVOURED NATION
IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF HEAVEN.

Leader: If we came to your house,
we would see people who never thought
they would be allowed entry.
but the door is ever open
to those who seek the company of heaven.

So, as we gather in Jesus' name,
let the characteristics you cherish
become evident in all we do and share together.

Gather into one
the glorious assortment of unlikes
which is your true church.

ALL: REVEAL WITHIN THIS COMMUNITY
WHAT WE MUST DO,
WHAT WE MUST HEAR,
AND WHO WE MUST WELCOME
IF WE ARE TO KNOW JESUS AMONG US.

Leader: God, give us the grace
to surrender our presumptions
as to what we should be or do;
and then amend our lives
until we become the people you intended.

ALL: AMEN.

ENGAGING

Conversation

The Gospel

Song Jesus Beware (Scotland) © 2010 WGRG, Iona Community, Glasgow G2 3DH, Scotland

1. (solo)

Look out, look out, move right away;
this is no place to stop or stay:
fast cash is changing hands today,
Jesus beware.

2. (solo)

The things you've done and what you've said,
the hearts you've changed and minds you've fed
lead some to say, 'High time he's dead!'
Jesus beware.

3. (hum)

Each threat to status quo is fought:
tradition matters such a lot,
those it empowers are keen you're caught,
Jesus beware.

4. ALL

They've picked up stones to hurl before,
they've plenty grievances in store.
Don't needle them; they won't take more.
Jesus beware.

5. ALL

God, save you, Jesus; save you, friend,
from those who plot and who pretend.
To every threat, God bring an end.
Jesus beware.

The musical score is written in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature (C). It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The first system (measures 5-8) includes a fermata over the final measure of the vocal line. The second system (measures 9-15) includes a 'Ped.' (pedal) marking under the piano line. The third system (measures 16-18) includes a 'D.C.' (Da Capo) marking at the end of the vocal line. The lyrics are written below the vocal line, with some words aligned with specific notes or rests.

RESPONDING

Symbolic Action (optional)

Song We Will Lay Our Burden Down (Scotland) © 1989 WGRG, Iona Community, Glasgow G2 3DH, Scotland

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. The lyrics are written above the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics: 'We will lay our bur-den down, we will'. The second staff contains: 'lay our bur-den down, we will lay our bur-den'. The third staff contains: 'down in the hands of the ris - en Lord.' The music consists of simple eighth and quarter notes with some rests.

2. We will light the flame of love...
As the hands of the risen Lord.

3. We will show both hurt and hope...
Like the hands of the risen Lord.

4. We will walk the path of peace...
Hand in hand with the risen Lord.

Prayer

Song Sent By The Lord (Cuba) translation © 1991 Jorge Maldonado

Sent by the Lord am I;
my hands are ready now
to make the earth the place
in which the kingdom comes. (Repeat)

The angels cannot change
a world of hurt and pain
into a world of love,
of justice and of peace.
The task is mine to do,
to set it really free.
Oh, help me to obey;
help me to do your will.

Closing Responses

Leader: The cross,
ALL: WE SHALL TAKE IT.

Leader: The bread,
ALL: WE SHALL BREAK IT.

Leader: The pain,
ALL: WE SHALL BARE IT.

Leader: The joy,
ALL: WE SHALL SHARE IT.

Leader: The Gospel,
ALL: WE SHALL LIVE IT.

Leader: The love,
ALL: WE SHALL GIVE IT.

Leader: The light,
ALL: WE SHALL CHERISH IT.

Leader: The darkness,
ALL: GOD SHALL PERISH IT.