



LITURGY

BASED ON PSALM 40

HUMAN RELATIONS DAY



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®



HUMAN RELATIONS DAY

LITURGY

CONNECTING IN RIGHT RELATIONSHIP

YOU ARE INVITED TO INCORPORATE THESE PRAYERS IN YOUR HUMAN RELATIONS DAY WORSHIP SERVICE.

GATHERING PRAYER

Creator of beloved community,
Thank you for gathering us together on this
Human Relations Day.
Open our ears to the instructions
of your prophets.
Open our eyes to needs of your people.
Open our hearts to one another in Christian love.
In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen

CALL TO WORSHIP (BASED ON PSALM 40)

One: We gather today with a new song
in our mouth.
All: A song of freedom and relationship.
One: We gather today with feet set on solid rock.
All: A rock of justice and peace.
One: We gather today to praise God for
wondrous deeds.
All: We delight to do God's will, with God's law
within our hearts.

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

Merciful God, so often we walk past those who
are poor or sick. We get caught up in our own
privileged lives and ignore your commands to love
our neighbor. Forgive us for allowing injustice to
become a normal part of our landscape.
Move us to be in right relationship with you
and with your people.
(hold silence)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Friends, you are rich with abundant gifts
from a God of second chances.
In the name of Jesus, you are forgiven.
People: In the name of Jesus, you are forgiven.
Glory to God. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Go from here, led by God, into the
margins of society,
Filled with a Spirit of hope and relationship with
all people, Crossing boundaries and repairing the
chasm in the name of Jesus Christ.

PSALM 40

THANKSGIVING FOR DELIVERANCE AND PRAYER FOR HELP TO THE LEADER. OF DAVID. A PSALM.

1. I waited patiently for the Lord;
he inclined to me and heard my cry.
2. He drew me up from the desolate pit,[a]
out of the miry bog,
and set my feet upon a rock,
making my steps secure.
3. He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear,
and put their trust in the Lord.
4. Happy are those who make
the Lord their trust,
who do not turn to the proud,
to those who go astray after false gods.
5. You have multiplied, O Lord my God,
your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward
us; none can compare with you.
Were I to proclaim and tell of them,
they would be more than can be counted.
6. Sacrifice and offering you do not desire,
but you have given me an open ear.[b]
Burnt offering and sin offering
you have not required.
7. Then I said, "Here I am;
in the scroll of the book it is written of me.[c]"
8. I delight to do your will, O my God;
your law is within my heart."
9. I have told the glad news of deliverance
in the great congregation;
see, I have not restrained my lips,
as you know, O Lord.
10. I have not hidden your saving help within my
heart, I have spoken of your faithfulness and
your salvation;
- I have not concealed your steadfast love and
your faithfulness
from the great congregation.
11. Do not, O Lord, withhold
your mercy from me;
let your steadfast love and your faithfulness
keep me safe forever.
12. For evils have encompassed me
without number;
my iniquities have overtaken me,
until I cannot see;
they are more than the hairs of my head,
and my heart fails me.
13. Be pleased, O Lord, to deliver me;
O Lord, make haste to help me.
14. Let all those be put to shame and confusion
who seek to snatch away my life;
let those be turned back and brought to dishonor
who desire my hurt.
15. Let those be appalled because of their shame
who say to me, "Aha, Aha!"
16. But may all who seek you
rejoice and be glad in you;
may those who love your salvation
say continually, "Great is the Lord!"
17. As for me, I am poor and needy,
but the Lord takes thought for me.
You are my help and my deliverer;
do not delay, O my God.