

A Liturgy Resource from Warhorn Media

Warhorn Media

2019-12-04

Contents

Liturgy

This site is a resource for planning worship services, providing lists of various elements as a quick reference. v2

The word “liturgy” can sound intimidating, but it is merely a composite Greek word meaning public work or duty. In Christian use, liturgy refers to the public service of God’s people. Thus, it consists of whatever actions we perform together to express our devotion to the Lord.

Under the Old Covenant, God had prescribed a gracious but elaborate service of animal sacrifices and votive offerings to be practiced in a restricted location (the tabernacle initially, later the temple in Jerusalem), through the mediation of the Levitical priesthood. Though these ancient ceremonies were fulfilled and done away with in the death of Christ, yet God has prescribed for the New Testament Church a liturgy of her own, albeit a far simpler and less restrictive one. This New Covenant liturgy is delineated in Acts 2:42, where we read that the first Christians were “continually devoting themselves to the Apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.” These are the basic categories of public worship subsequent to the coming of Christ and the pouring out of His Spirit at Pentecost.

While there are perhaps various ways of faithfully giving expression to these simple Apostolic devotions, the Protestant Church has historically seen fit to make use of the elements found in the menu bar. (Note: song is a subcategory of prayer, dealt with here.) Under each category you will find examples from Scripture and history to assist you in preparing to lead God’s people in their spiritual service of worship.

Opening Sentences

Our help is in the name of the LORD, Who made heaven and earth.

— Psalm 124:8

The LORD is in His holy temple. Let all the earth be silent before Him. | Habakkuk 2:20

-
- This is the day which the LORD has made; Let us rejoice and be glad in it. | Psalm 118:24
 - I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the LORD.” | Psalm 122:1
 - God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth. | John 4:24
 - Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer. | Psalm 19:15

