

REFOCUSING ON OUR PURPOSE: WORSHIP ELEMENTS

By Joyce Perry Edwards, MCEd, PhD

The following are worship elements related to the subtheme for this year, *Refocusing on our Purpose*. They may be used for worship on Lay Sunday, in devotionals for lay academies, or during other gatherings of the Lay Council at the local church, district, or conference level. These elements were selected for their relevance to the purposes of the universal church and our responsibilities individually to praise God, to learn God's will and way, to witness and draw people to Christ, and to engage in fellowship with other Christians.

While the administration of the sacraments is indeed a purpose of the organized church, songs related to baptism and the Holy Communion are not included here. Also, not included are those traditionally sung during the seasons of Advent, Christmastide, Lent and Easter. An attempt was made to include music that is familiar, frequently used, or easy to learn. In addition to music appropriate for congregational or choral selections by the choir, a few pieces for other worship elements such as the processional and prayer hymn are included.

SUBTHEMES

- The Purpose of the Universal Church
- The Purpose of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church
- The Purpose of Our Local Church
- The Purpose of the Lay Council
- My Purpose as a Disciple of Christ

SCRIPTURAL PASSAGES

Old Testament

Deuteronomy 4:1-6
2 Kings 23:1-5
1 Chronicles 16:23-31
1 Chronicles 29:1-20
Psalm 92
Psalm 149
Nehemiah 8:1-12

New Testament

Matthew 28:16-20
Acts 2:40-47
Ephesians 2:19-22
Colossians 3:12-17
1 Thessalonians 5:4-23
Hebrews 10:19-25
1 Peter 2:1-9

CHORAL MUSIC ELEMENTS

Note: Title with numbers without brackets are those in the *A.M.E. Zion Bicentennial Hymnal*.
Titles with numbers in brackets are those in the *African American Heritage Hymnal*.

Anthems

- PRAISE: “Let Mount Zion Rejoice”
“Praise to the Lord” (arr. By J. Lorenz)
[#160] “The Lord Is My Light”
[#113] “Total Praise”
- LEARNING: “Follow Me” (Glenn Burleigh)
“God Be in My Head” (Grayson Warren Browne)
- WITNESS: “Come, Come Ye Saints”
“Hear Am I” [#466]

Hymns

- PRAISE: #66 “All Creatures of Our God and King”
#133 “All Glory, Laud, and Honor”
32-#34 “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”
#80 “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”
#268 “Praise Him! Praise Him”
#50 “To God Be the Glory”
- LEARNING: #263 “More about Jesus”
#681 “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”
- WITNESS: #439 “A Charge to Keep I Have”
#438 “Am I a Soldier of the Cross”
#360 “‘Go Preach the Gospel,’ Saith the Lord”
[#555] “If Jesus Goes with Me”
#389 “I Love to Tell the Story” #680
#484 “Jesus Calls Us o’er the Tumult”
#668 “Lift Him Up” (WH&OMS Theme Hymn)
[#503] “Look and Live”
#380 “O Zion Haste”
#680 “Onward Christian Laity” (Lay Council Theme Song)
#432 “Stand up, Stand up for Jesus”
#470 “Take My Life and Let It Be”
#677 “Throw out the Lifeline” (Supply Dept. Theme Song)
#485 “Walk in the Light”
#388 “We’ve a Story to Tell to the Nations”
[#550] “Where He Leads Me I Will Follow”
#435 “Work for the Night Is Coming”

FELLOWSHIP: “They’ll Know We are Christians by Our Love” (YACM Theme Song)

PROCESSIONAL: #648 “Marching to Zion”

PRAYER HYMNS: #492 “Have Thine Own Way, Lord
#525 “Jesus Saviour, Pilot Me”
[#433] “Keep Me Everyday”
#285 “Saviour, Lead Me Lest I Stray”
[#444] “Thy Way, O Lord, Not Mine”

African American Spirituals

PRAISE: #613 “Rise an’ Shine”

LEARNING: [#131] “Guide My Feet, Lord, While I Run This Race”
#622 “Old Time Religion”
#603 “We Are Climbing Jacob’s Ladder”

WITNESS: “Ain’t Got Time to Die”
“Don’t Let Nobody Turn You ‘Round”
#220 “Every Time I Feel the Spirit”
#605 “Let Us Cheer the Weary Traveler”
[#485] “Satan, We’re Gonna Tear Your Kingdom Down”
#617 “This Little Light of Mine”

FELLOWSHIP: [#541] “Walk Together Children”

PRAYER HYMN: #606 “Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”

Traditional Gospel Songs

PRAISE: [#134] “God Is”
“He’s Worthy” (God’s Worthy! Almighty Creator)
[#419} “Holy Ground”
#246 “Majesty, Worship His Majesty”
[#172] “Praise Him”
[#302] “Praise the Name of Jesus
[#478} “What a Mighty God We Serve”

LEARNING: #645 “Higher Ground”
[#333] “Order My Steps”

WITNESS: [#551] “Completely Yes”
“I Will Go in Jesus’ Name” (Clay Bogan, III)
[#514] “I’ll Tell It Wherever I Go”

[#480] "I'm on the Battlefield for My Lord"
[#548] "Only What You Do for Christ Will Last"
[#389] "What Shall I Render?"

FELLOWSHIP: [#338] "Unity" (Glorraine Moone)

PRAYER: [#459] "Give Me a Clean Heart"
[#397] "Nothing Between"
[#462] "Sanctuary"

PROCESSIONALS: [#596] "Come and Go with Me to My Father's House"
[#106] "In the Beauty of Holiness"

BENEDICTORY [#640] "Always Remember Jesus"
RESPONSES [#632] "Lord, Make Me More Holy"

Contemporary Gospel Songs

PRAISE: "Every Praise" (David Bratton, Hezekiah Walker)
[#181] High Praise
[#491] "Jesus, the Center of My Joy"
"Jesus, Jesus, Jesus" ("The Katrina Song") (Timothy Wright)
"My Soul Is Anchored" (Miller)
[#576] "Precious Jesus"

WITNESS: "Count on Me" (CeCe Winans)
"Go Light Your World" (Chris Rice)
"Field of Souls" (Watson)
[#486] "Hold Back the Night"
"My Whole Life I Give to You" (Luther Barnes)
"Stand" (Donnie McCurkin)
"The Harvest Is Plentiful (Rev. Isaac Douglas)
"Waging War" (CeCe Winans)

FELLOWSHIP: "I Need You to Survive" (David Frazier)
"Make Us One" (Carol Cymbala)
We Are United" (McGregor)

Songs for Children

PRAISE: [#625] "Bless the Lord"
"Every Praise" (David Bratton, Hezekiah Walker)
"Jesus in the Morning"
#538 "Praise Him, Praise Him, All Ye Little Children"
#613 "Rise and Shine"
[#478] "What a Mighty God We Serve"

LEARNING: “Give Me Oil in My Lamp”
##672 “Give of Your Best to the Master”
[#624] “Higher, Higher”
[#615] “My Help Cometh from the Lord”
“This is My Commandment”
#603 “We Are Climbing Jacob’s Ladder”

WITNESS: “Be Careful, Little Eyes”
[#623] “Children, Go Where I Send Thee”
[#622] “Down in My Heart”
“His Banner over Me Is Love”
[#614] “Jesus Wants Me for a Sunbeam”
“Lord Is Mine and I Am His, The”
#617 “This Little Light of Mine”

FELLOWSHIP: “One Door and Only One”

PRAYER: “Into My Heart”
“Whisper a Prayer”