

# **Worship Materials for visiting Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) mission partners**

## **Hymns from Presbyterian Hymnal:**

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Let the Whole Creation Cry #256  
Called as Partners in Christ's Service #343  
Lift High the Cross #371  
Arise, Your Light Is Come! #411  
Eternal god, Whose Power Upholds #412  
Come, Labor On #415  
Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation #416, 417  
God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending #422  
Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun #423  
O Jesus Christ, May Grateful Hymns Be Rising #424  
Lord of Light, Your Name Outshining #425  
Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak #426  
Lord, You Give the Great Commission #429  
Come Sing, O Church, in Joy! #430  
O Lord, You Gave Your Servant John #431  
Canto de Esperanza #432  
Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples #434  
We All Are One in Mission #435  
We Are Your People #436  
Our Cities Cry to You, O God #437  
Blest Be the Tie That Binds #438  
In Christ There Is No East or West #439  
I Love Thy Kingdom Lord #441  
The Church's One Foundation #442  
O Christ, the Great Foundation #443  
Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ #514 particularly appropriate in communion  
service or dinner

There are many hymns from different parts of the world in *Sing the Faith*, which many churches have.

## **Litanies for Mission**

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*(designed for use after preaching or speaking)*

Word of blessing, Word of Life, you speak, and it is so. You have spoken to us and now await our consent to your newness of life.

**Let it be unto me according to your Word.**

With hands of power you tenderly scooped the earth together to make humans. All people's being stands as a witness to your love.

**Help us to see your image in all faces.**

You hollow out a special people to serve as instruments of your grace, breathing into us your Spirit, so we can trumpet forth the victory of Jesus Christ over all that hurts or destroys.

**Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.**

You hear the cries of creation groaning for new life, the scream of terror, the “No!” to evil, the whimpers of hungry children, and stunned silence beyond hope.

**Open our lips, that we may amplify your Word above the din of destruction.**

With nail-scarred hands you comfort the crying child, hold the grief-stricken, raise up the fallen, bind up the broken-hearted, and reach out to those who work for your *shalom*.

**We place our hands in yours to join in your work.**

Lord of Life, bless those who place their lives in your service despite risk of death. Give them the fearless boldness of your love, and protect them from all that hurts or destroys. Count us, O Lord, among those who risk all in glad service to you in whatever mission field you send us to work.

**Here I am, Lord. Send me.**

This we pray in the Spirit of the One who sends us all to be light and salt to the bland darkness of the world, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May your name, O God, be magnified in all glory and honor and dominion that is yours now and forevermore.

**Amen.**

(Teresa Lockhart Stricklen, Associate for Worship,  
PCUSA)

**Litany for Mission**

God the Father, Creator of heaven and Earth,

**Have mercy on us.**

God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

**Have mercy on us.**

God the Holy Spirit, Sanctifier of the Faithful,

**Have mercy on us.**

Holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God,

**Have mercy on us.**

That it may please you to plant your church in all the world, that the name of Jesus may be known and worshipped by all peoples,

**Hear us, O Lord.**

That it may please you to awaken a zeal for missions in the hearts of all your people,

**Hear us, O Lord.**

That it may please you to send out laborers into your harvest,

**Hear us, O Lord.**

That it may please you to enkindle within your people an awareness of mission and a willingness to provide faithful support,

**Hear us, O Lord.**

That it may please you to bless the missions to all unevangelized areas of North America,

**Hear us, O Lord.**

That it may please you to restore and enlarge your Church in the Caribbean and Central and South America,

**Hear us, O Lord.**

For an increase in evangelism and ministries of mercy in our local community and abroad, that all people may come to know and enjoy your blessings,

We pray to you, O God.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For greater awareness of the persecuted Churches and the injustices that they endure,

We pray to you, O God.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the poor, the hungry, and the oppressed people of the world, and all who suffer for the sake of the Gospel,

We pray to you, O God.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That it may please you to prosper the faith and practice of your Church in Africa,

**Hear us, O Lord.**

That it may please you to raise up faithful evangelists to rebuild the Church in Europe,

**Hear us, O Lord.**

That it may please you to increase the Christian witness among the people of the Middle East,

**Hear us, O Lord.**

That it may please you to invigorate those who spread the Gospel in China, India, and all Asia,

**Hear us, O Lord.**

That it may please you to grant peace and stability in the Holy Land, that the Gospel may be both heard and obeyed,

**Hear us, O Lord.**

That it may please you to relieve and protect all members of your Church who suffer persecution for the faith throughout the world,

**Hear us, O Lord.**

That it may please you to enkindle love of the truth among all nations and peoples,

**Hear us, O Lord.**

That it may please you to prosper the ministry to immigrants and to the underprivileged in rural areas and in the inner cities,

**Hear us, O Lord.**

That it may please you to convict and convert the apostate, self-righteous, and spiritually blind among us and to draw all sinners to repentance,

**Hear us, O Lord.**

*The prayer concludes with one of the collects in the following section.*

**Prayers of the People for Mission**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord our God.

For the growth of God's Kingdom throughout the world,

We pray to you, O God.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the ministry of the Holy Church of God to make disciples of all nations,

We pray to you, O God.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all baptized Christians, that they may discern their vocation to spread the Gospel at all times and in all places,

We pray to you, O God.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all who have not yet heard or believed in the Gospel, and those who may have the opportunity to declare it to them,

We pray to you,

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For our [Presbyterian missionaries] and mission partners [and \_\_\_\_\_,]

and all whose ministry it is to respond to human need and

suffering and for all who preach the Gospel and teach the truth,

We pray to you,

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

That it may please you to enlighten with faith those who worship created things rather than the Creator,

We beseech you, Lord,

**Hear us.**

That it may please you to inspire faithful preaching of your Holy Gospel,

We beseech you, Lord,

**Hear us.**

That it may please you to assist with grace our missionaries and their families, both at home and abroad,

We beseech you, Lord,

**Hear us.**

That it may please you to enlighten all seekers, and to strengthen all new converts,

We beseech you, Lord,

**Hear us.**

That it may please you to empower all the baptized for their daily life and work in your Name,

We beseech you, Lord,

**Hear us.**

That it may please you to guide all who minister in your Church,

We beseech you, Lord,

**Hear us.**

That it may please you to deliver all nations and people from the cruelty of racism, sexism, and nationalistic imperialism,

We beseech you, Lord,

**Hear us.**

That it may please you to increase vocations for service in your Name throughout the world,

We beseech you, Lord,

**Hear us.**

That it may please you to enable sound learning and uphold the work of education in schools and learning centers everywhere,

We beseech you, Lord,

**Hear us.**

That it may please you to bless medical, agricultural, and economic missions done for your glory,

We beseech you, Lord,

**Hear us.**

That it may please you to guide and inspire all Bible translators, that your Word may be proclaimed in all tongues,

We beseech you, Lord,

**Hear us.**

That it may please you to restore unity among all who love you,

We beseech you, Lord,

**Hear us.**<sup>1</sup>

*The prayer concludes with one of the collects in the following section.*

## **Prayers:**

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God of prophets and apostles,  
you have chosen leaders to train your people  
in the way of Jesus Christ.

We thank you that in our day  
you are still claiming men and women  
for special work within the church.

As {Name} has dedicated *himself/herself* to you,  
let us pledge ourselves to *him/her*,  
so that, surrounded by affection and hope,  
*he/she* may grow in wisdom,  
mature in love,  
and become a faithful worker,  
approved by Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** (*Book of Common Worship* (BCW), 813)

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth,  
and sent your blessed Son to preach peace  
to those who are far off and those who are near:  
Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you;  
bring the nations into your fold;  
pour out your Spirit upon all flesh;  
and hasten the coming of your kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** (BCW, 123)

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<sup>1</sup> “The Litany for Mission” and “Prayers of the People,” were based on those prepared and published by the World Mission Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth for the Anglican Church in North America, by Ryan S. Reed and the Rev. Timothy P. Perkins, December 2009, accessed at [www.fworldmission.org/library/brochures/missionlitany&prayers.pdf](http://www.fworldmission.org/library/brochures/missionlitany&prayers.pdf)

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love  
on the hard wood of the cross  
that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace:  
So clothe us in your Spirit that we,  
reaching forth our hands in love,  
may bring those who do not know you  
to the knowledge and love of you;  
for the honor of your name. **Amen.** (BCW, 537)

**For Courage in Christ's Mission**

*Toyohiko Kagawa (1888–1960)*

O God, show us clearly the heart of the kingdom of God.  
We do not protest  
even if our life is destined to lead to the cross,  
or if the way leads to our losing our lives.  
We will march in the face of distress and contrary winds.  
Teach us how to dispense with unnecessary things.  
Let us go forward without fear of death  
in order to fulfill our mission simply, surely, and steadily.  
Reveal to us our station clearly,  
and strengthen us to teach and guide, by our example, all persons,  
even those who are ruled by evil.  
We pray that you may find us worthy to work through us. **Amen.** (BCW, 807)

**For the Mission of the Church**

Almighty God, you sent your Son Jesus Christ  
to reconcile the world to yourself.  
We praise and bless you  
for those whom you have sent in the power of the Spirit  
to preach the gospel to all nations.  
We thank you that in all parts of the earth  
a community of love has been gathered together  
by their prayers and labors,  
and that in every place your servants call upon your name;  
for the kingdom and the power and the glory  
are yours forever. **Amen.** (BCW, 806)

**For the Mission of the Church**

By your will, O God,  
we go out into the world  
with good news of your undying love,  
and minister in the midst of human need  
to show wonders of your grace.  
We pray for men and women  
who minister for you in \_\_\_\_\_ .  
May they be strengthened by our concern,  
and supported by our gifts.

Do not let them be discouraged,  
but make them brave and glad and hopeful in your word;  
through Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.** (BCW, 806)

**For an Inclusive Church**

How great is your love, Lord God,  
how wide is your mercy!  
Never let us board up the narrow gate that leads to life  
with rules or doctrines that you dismiss;  
but give us a Spirit to welcome all people with affection,  
so that your church may never exclude secret friends of yours,  
who are included in the love of Jesus Christ,  
who came to save us all. **Amen.** (BCW, 804)

**For International Organizations**

*From the Mainau Prayerbook*

O God,  
we pray for all international organizations of goodwill,  
that their efforts may lead to a strengthening  
of those influences which make for peace.  
Great sacrifices have been made for war;  
awaken in us and in all people, O God,  
the willingness to make great sacrifices for peace,  
so that the day may be hastened  
when no nation shall draw the sword against another,  
and people no longer shall learn to fight.  
We ask in the name of him who is the Prince of Peace. **Amen.** (BCW, 798)

***You may find other prayers in the Book of Common Worship, pp. 795-815  
to be helpful as well.***

**Blessing**

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***Missionary:*** May the Lord bless your going out and your coming in, in the Sovereign care of God.

***People:*** **Amen. May the Lord bless your going out and your coming in, in the Sovereign care of God.**

***Missionary:*** Amen.