The Liturgy

Words to Reflect On

"Like the Israelites exiled to Babylon, today's Filipino migrants could feel God had abandoned them and maybe, that they abandoned God during this pandemic. Still God pursues them with love and leads them towards freedom and healing."

- Rev. Cathy Chang, PC(USA) Mission Co-worker in partnership with UCCP Migrant Ministry

The Act of Praise

Silent Moment of Preparation

Prelude

Lighting of Christ Candle

Call to Worship

Liturgist: This is the day that the Lord has made! We will rejoice and be glad in it.

People: How can we rejoice when we have brothers and sisters all over the world who are in pain, trapped, dying of diseases and grieving over the loss of loved ones; who are in war-torn places, caught in crossfires; when families are separated and broken; abused and discriminated. How can we rejoice when the whole of creation is groaning in pain?

Liturgist: This is a day of opportunity; a time to remember people and creation who continue to suffer oppression and exploitation in various ways.

People: This is a time to be challenged to greater action and service, to improve the condition of all who cry out for justice.

Liturgist: This is not only a day of rejoicing, but a day to seek the truth and face the truth; a day when we must not turn away into comfortable enclaves of silence and unconcern.

All: It is a day of hope that truth will set people free. Yes, it is the day that the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it!

Hymn of Praise "O Many People of All Lands" HFJ,3

Words by Natty G. Barranda; Music by Lois F, Bello

O many people of all lands now come to God with praise; Together shall we praise our God, Lord of all culture's ways.

O varied tongues of humankind, now congregate to sing;
With hymns of joy and wonderment, thank off'ring we would bring.

O Fount of Love and Light and Life, we thank you for this day; We are assured of your supply, of grace all through the way.

O Source of hope, desire and dream, just as we are we come; Inspired by you and your great beam to know more of your home.

Invocation (all)

O Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, we praise you for continuing to be in mission with us. As we commemorate Migrant Workers Sunday, spur us to see beyond our pains so that we may be able to see the pain and bring healing to others; to rise to the challenge for greater action and service; to reach out to people in need of

friendship and comfort; to face the truth and work to improve the sad conditions of our relationships and environment. By doing so, we are reminded of our kinship with each other in Your name. Amen

The Act of Confession

Call to Confession

Liturgist: Let us look outside our selves and be stirred from our comforts. As a community, we need to feel and see the plight of those we call our neighbors: the imprisoned, naked, thirsty, the unwelcome. Let us examine how far have we extended ourselves to others in response to God's love and care. Let us confess and admit our sins.

Song of Confession "Ampo sa Paghinulsol" HFJ,86

The world we live in is full of chaos,

Each one is longing for peace to prevail.

But it's so elusive, hard to attain,

And Lord you have taught us,

Through You a lasting peace can reign.

But conflicts so divide us, and harmony eludes us

Forgive us Lord, we pray, for we do not live in your way

Of peace which you have taught us for our lives to be with meaning.

O Lord, listen to our prayer.

Silent Moment of Confession

Words of Assurance (Minister)

Return to the Lord. God is calling us to be the church who will see Jesus and look for Jesus in the lives of those whom we are called to serve. Remember that God will not forsake us. Live as a forgiven people of God.

The Act of Remembering

Tribute to the Migrant Workers

(A video or short stories/essays that talk about the condition and situation of Migrant Workers all over the world or Filipino Migrant Workers in particular)

Testimony of an OFW or family member

Song of Lament "O Look and See our People" HFJ,379

Words: SLJC Workshop,1989; Eng.Transl. Jeaneth H. Faller,2002

Music: Ann Byung- Won

Oh look and see our people forced to deep sleep from suffering

To rise from all exploitation, our only desire and hope.

O God, rekindle the flame of love and serve our dear nation;

Our fervent goal for our nation: freedom and liberty.

(repeat)

Prayer Expressions (members of the faith community, maybe a child, youth or adult may lead short prayers of intercession for the plight of the migrant workers, for the families left behind; for the pain and struggle of separation and broken news; for the end of violence and abuse against migrant workers)

The Word Proclaimed

Thru the Reading of the Scriptures Matthew 25:31-46; Ezekiel 34:11-16;

Psalm 100

Thru a Song/Anthem

Thru the Interpreted Word

"God of the Greener Pastures"

- Rev. Cathy Chang

Please refer to separate file

In Response to the Word

The Call to Offering

Liturgist: Amidst the pandemic, we are given us the opportunity to witness God's sustaining love and generosity. Today, we are also give the opportunity to respond to God's faithfulness in whatever ways we can. Let us now offer our symbols of gratitude to God by bringing our gifts, tithes, pledges and other offerings.

The Offering of Tithes, Pledges and Lives

Doxology Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ, all creatures here below

Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter;

One God Triune, whom we adore. Amen

Thanksgiving Prayer

The Act of Dedication and Sending

Hymn of Challenge "Come, Holy Spirit, Come" HFJ,175

Words and Music: Melchizedek Solis/Mutya Lopez Solis,1983

Come, Holy Spirit, come,

Show us our way through nightmare alloys of our history

Entrust our children with builders vision,

Empow'r them to soar above hate barriers,

For they shall lead us all together,

To shape your new city in our time.

Come, Holy Spirit, come,

Link arms and hearts, unite us in our stand for truth and justice

Entrust our children with builders vision,

Empow'r them to soar above hate barriers

For they shall all lead us all together,

To break evil dens and prison cells.

Inspire our Rising youth to dream bold dreams,

Upon wrath's rubble and restore community.

Entrust our children with builders vision,

Empow'r them to soar above hate barriers

For they shall all lead us all together,

To share Christ's true love for making peace.

Closing Prayer (all)

Our everlasting and loving God, with You, there is no stranger nor migrant, no longer slaves nor wanderer, for you have called us into a loving and caring community- one body, one spirit, one mission.

Empower us to bring healing to the injured,

To bring faith to those in doubt,

To bring joy into lives consumed with sadness, pain and despair.

Mold us into caring communities that we may bring the gift of salvation,

That in Jesus Christ we may learn how to care and reach out to the needy and powerless,

Let your Holy Spirit E golden us to change what needs to be changed

So Your kingdom of love, unity, justice and peace may advance.

Benediction

Minister: Fill the world with the spirit of Christ, and in all things, in the very midst of human Affairs, become a witness of Christ. May God the Creator bless you beyond your comprehension, and the Holy Spirit come alive in you. Amen.

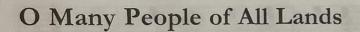
All: (sung) Yes, Amen! Yes, Amen! Yes, Amen, Amen!

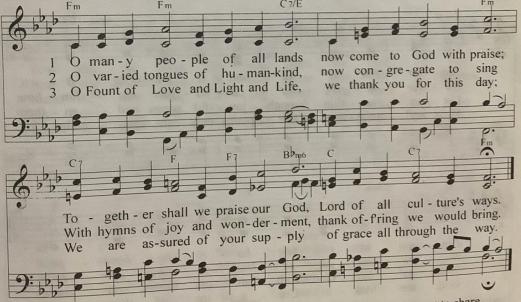
Postlude

References:

Hymnal of Faith Journey, UCCP, 2002

The Christian Education and Nurture, Guide to Celebration 1990





4 O Source of hope, de-sire and dream, just as we are, we come, Ins-pired by you and your great beam to know more of your home.

5 From here we all go out to share in offices and homes, Your nev-er-fail-ing love and care in sub-stance, deeds, and forms.

MATERNIDAD

Words: Natty G. Barranda Music: Lois F. Bello

Masdan ang Aming Bayan

Oh Look and See Our People

