

IDEAS TO CONNECT TO WORSHIP AND THE CONGREGATION

One Great Hour of Sharing

Formulate worship elements that center on the text (Isaiah 58) and connect to a catalog item that is a tangible way of living out the text. For example, the grain bank item is a way in which we honor God's call "to share your bread with the hungry." Skills coaching for people with mental illness, or support for entrepreneurial start-ups might "undo the thongs of the yoke" or "loose bonds of injustice," while water filters for places like Flint, Michigan, might be the evidence of the Lord with us, "whose waters never fail." As far as what those elements should be, (prayer, liturgical action, invitation to offering, call to worship, etc.)

Call to Worship (from Isaiah 58:11)

Leader: Rain down on us your love and grace,

People: Fresh waters that refresh us and make us clean.

Leader: The Lord will satisfy your needs in parched places.

People: We shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.

Leader: Let us call upon the Lord **People: And the Lord will answer.**

Leader: Let us worship God.

(Rainwater Catchment System, OG10009; Water Filter, OG30012; Jerry Cans, OG30011; Presbyterian Giving Catalog)

Hymn Suggestions

Jesu, Jesu Fill us with Your Love Hymn #203, Glory to God Presbyterian Hymnal (Isaiah 58:6–7)

(Emergency Life Pack, OG30002; Women's Empowerment Project, OG10030; Support for Entrepreneurial Start Ups, OG20010; Presbyterian Giving Catalog)

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness Hymn #314, Glory to God Presbyterian Hymnal (Isaiah 58:8–10)

(Winter Heating Fuel for Refugees, OG30010, Presbyterian Giving Catalog)

When The Poor Ones Hymn #762, Glory to God Presbyterian Hymnal (Isaiah 58:6–7)

(Emergency Life Pack, OG30002; Women's Empowerment Project, OG10030; Support for Entrepreneurial Start Ups, OG20010; Presbyterian Giving Catalog)



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One Great Hour of Sharing (continued)

God of the Fertile Fields Hymn #714, Glory to God Presbyterian Hymnal (Isaiah 58:7, 10)

(Bag of Seeds, OG10010 or OG10025; Grain Bank, OG10026; Container Garden, OG10027; Farming Tools, OG10022; Presbyterian Giving Catalog)

Scripture Reading Suggestion with Visual Presentation—

If you are able to show visual images in worship, create a slideshow to go along with the scripture reading of Isaiah 58 with the following suggestions:

- v. 1—trumpet
- v. 2—day calendar
- v. 3—worker oppression
- v. 4—quarreling people
- v. 5—sackcloth and ashes
- v. 6—yoke
- v. 7—bread & clothing
- v. 8-sunrise
- v. 9—pointing finger
- v. 10—offering food or light out of darkness
- v. 11—watered garden or spring of water
- v. 12—repairing—bridge building, mending
- v. 13—calendar with Sunday, worship bulletin
- v. 14—happy people

Prayer Litany (from Isaiah 58, The Message)

Dear God, sometimes you need to shout at us to tell us what is wrong.

We pray for our community.

We can be busy, busy, trying to be faithful, and we complain that you don't even notice. We bicker and fight.

We pray for our community.

God, you call us to break the chains of injustice,

May we be repairers of the breach.

Get rid of exploitation in the workplace,

May we be healers of the wounded.

Free the oppressed,

May we be fixers of the broken.





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One Great Hour of Sharing (continued)

Cancel debts,

May we be restorers of fortune.

Share food with the hungry,

May we be providers of meals.

Invite the homeless poor in,

May we be welcomers of all.

Put clothes on the shivering,

May we be givers of warmth

Be available to our families.

May we be present to those who know us best.

God, you will turn our lives around and show us where to go.

May we be followers of the light.

We will be known as those who can fix anything, rebuild and renovate, make the community livable again.

We pray for our community.

And we will all be free to enjoy God!

AMEN.

Charge and Benediction

Isaiah tells us that the way we practice our faith is to live it out in daily life.

Break the chains of injustice, get rid of exploitation in the workplace, free the oppressed, cancel debts, share your food with the hungry, invite the homeless poor into your life, put clothes on the shivering, and be available to your own families.

You have these opportunities before you in the Presbyterian Giving Catalog. These are tangible ways that help our wider community throughout the world.

Then you'll be known as those who can fix anything, restore old ruins, rebuild and renovate, make the community livable again.

May the love of God, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you now and always. Amen.

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