

**AMERICAN UNITARIAN  
ASSOCIATION: SERVICES  
FOR CONGREGATIONAL  
WORSHIP 1877**

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American Unitarian Association: Services for Congregational Worship 1877 by Various

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**VARIOUS**

**AMERICAN UNITARIAN  
ASSOCIATION: SERVICES  
FOR CONGREGATIONAL  
WORSHIP 1877**



*American Unitarian Association.*  
**SERVICES**

FOR

**CONGREGATIONAL WORSHIP.**

"GOD IS A SPIRIT, AND THEY WHO WORSHIP HIM MUST WORSHIP HIM IN SPIRIT  
AND IN TRUTH."

**REVISED EDITION.**

BOSTON:  
AMERICAN UNITARIAN ASSOCIATION.

1898

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## PREFACE.

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**I**N the preparation of this book, the selections from the Psalms and Prophets are taken from the Common Version, with a few verbal changes, chiefly from the translation by Rev. Dr. Noyes. The rest of the materials are drawn from ancient liturgies and many modern service books, to all of which obligations are acknowledged.

Its plan avoids the monotony of a single prolonged service; and by its threefold division of Introduction, Psalm, and Prayer, it offers freedom in using more or less, at the option of the minister and people.

The children for the last generation have been educated in the Sunday School to take part audibly in the religious service; and they naturally desire the same privilege as they take their place in the Church. Where such opportunity is permitted would seem to be the truly congregational order.

To all who desire, with Jesus of Nazareth, to worship one God, the Father, believing that the substance of all true religion is love to God and man, this book is respectfully offered.

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## ORDER OF SERVICE.

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1. INTRODUCTORY SERVICE (pp. 2-21).
  2. HYMN, or ANTHEM.
  3. SELECTION from the Psalms, or Prophets (pp. 22-77).
  4. TE DEUM, or CANTICLE. To be sung. (pp. 78-83.)
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  7. HYMN.
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  9. PRAYER.
  10. HYMN.
  11. BENEDICTION.
- 

The Selections from the Psalms or Prophets are to be read by the Minister and Congregation in *alternate* sentences.

In the Introductory Services and Prayers, the sentences to be read by the Congregation are printed in *Italics*. At the end of every prayer also, the people may answer, *Amen*.

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It is recommended that, in singing, the Congregation shall stand; and, in prayer, that they shall kneel, or sit with bowed head.

## FIRST SERVICE.

*One or more sentences to be read by the Minister.*

**T**HE Lord is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him.

The Lord is nigh unto all that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth.

Seek ye the Lord while he may be found: call ye upon him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

The hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth; for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father who is in heaven.

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

## EXHORTATION.

**M**AY this house be unto us no other than the house of God and the gate of heaven. Here let us worship Him who is a spirit in spirit and in truth. Suffer not the cares of the world and the anxieties of life to interrupt our devotions. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Toil, trial, and suffering still await us; and the experience of every day teaches that we are not sufficient unto ourselves. Put your trust in Him whose grace is ready to help in time of need.

## SENTENCES.

*To be said by the Minister and People.*

**H**EAR, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord:

*And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength.*

God is love:

*And he that dwelleth in love, dwelleth in God, and God in him.*

God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

*He that loveth his brother  
abideth in the light.*

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

*Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life.*

As many as are led by the spirit of God, they are sons of God.

*We know that all things work together for good to them that love God.*

This is life eternal, that they might know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

*We have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.*

Glory to God in the highest.  
*And on earth peace, goodwill toward men.*

A THANKSGIVING.

*To be said by the Minister.*

FATHER of lights, Author of every good and perfect gift: we heartily thank thee for thy bountiful kindness to us and to all men; for life and all its blessings, for health and prosperity, for brotherly love and the means of doing good; above all, for thy grace and truth, and for our hope of life eternal. Increase, O Lord, our

knowledge, and multiply thy grace upon us, that no ignorance or sin may pervert thy blessings; but give us such a sense of thy goodness that we may ever devote ourselves to thy service in word and deed; and, praising thee both with our lips and our lives, may go on through thy mercy to the joy of life everlasting. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

*To be said by the Minister and People.*

OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

O Lord, open thou our eyes.

*That we may behold wonderful things out of thy law.*

O Lord, open thou our lips.  
*And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.*

Praise ye the Lord.

*The Lord's name be praised.*

*(Here may be sung a Hymn or Anthem.)*