

Example Resources for Interfaith Services

Scripture Suggestions:

The Holy Qur-an - Part 19, Chapter 25

The true servants of the Gracious GOD are the following:

Those who walk upon earth with humility and when they are tempted by the evil ones, they respond: Peace;

Those who pass the hours of the night in prayers and standing before the Lord;

Those who pray: Lord turn away from us the punishments of hell, for it is a heavy torment, it is indeed an evil dwelling place;

Those who are neither extravagant nor stingy in spending, but keep a balance between the two;

Those who repent and believe and do good deeds.

The Holy Qur-an ñ Part 5 27-30

Recite to them the truth of the story of the two sons
Of Adam. Behold ! They each presented a sacrifice to God.
If was accepted from Abel, but not from Cain,
Said the latter (Cain): ìBe sure I will kill youî
ìSurely, said Abel, ìGod does accept of the sacrifice
of those who are righteous.

If you stretch your hand against me, to slay me,
It is not for me to stretch my hand against you, to slay you:
For I do fear God, the Cherisher of the Worlds.

For me, I intend to let you draw on yourself my sin as well as yours.
For you will be among the companions of the Fire,
And that is the reward of those who do wrong.

The selfish soul of Cain led him to the murder of his brother:
He murdered him, and became one of the lost ones.

The Holy Qur-an Part 2 62-64

Those who believe in the Qur-an, and those who follow the Jewish scriptures,
And the Christians and the Sabians,
Any who believe in God and the Last Day,
And work for righteousness, Shall have their reward
With their Lord on them, Shall be no fear, nor shall they grieve
And remember We took Your Covenant and We raised above you
The mount Sinai, Saying: ìHold firmly to what We have given you,
And bring ever to remembrance what is therein:
Perchance you may fear God.î

The Holy Qur-an Part 39 4b-6

He is God, the One, the Overpowering. He created the heavens
And the earth in true proportions: He makes the Night overlap the Day,
And the Day overlap the Night: He has subjected the sun and the moon
To His law: Each one follows a course for a time appointed.

Is not He the Exalted in Power-He Who forgives again and again?
He created you all from a single Person:
Then created, of like nature, his mate: and He sent down for you eight head
Of cattle in pairs: He creates you, in the wombs of your mothers,
In stages, one after another, In three veils of darkness.

Such is God, your Lord and Cherisher: to Him belongs all dominion.
There is no god but He.

Psalms 145

145:1 A psalm of praise. Of David. I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever.

2 Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever.

3 Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom.

4 One generation will commend your works to another; they will tell of your mighty acts.

5 They will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty, and I will meditate on your wonderful works.

6 They will tell of the power of your awesome works, and I will proclaim your great deeds.

7 They will celebrate your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of your righteousness.

8 The LORD is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love.

9 The LORD is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.

10 All you have made will praise you, O LORD; your saints will extol you.

11 They will tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might,

12 so that all men may know of your mighty acts and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations. The LORD is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made.

14 The LORD upholds all those who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down.

15 The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time.

16 You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

17 The LORD is righteous in all his ways and loving toward all he has made.

18 The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

19 He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them.

20 The LORD watches over all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy.

21 My mouth will speak in praise of the LORD. Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever.

Psalms 100

100:1 A psalm. For giving thanks. Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

2 Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

3 Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

- 4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.
- 5 For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Psalm 23

- 23:1 A psalm of David. The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters,
 - 3 he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
 - 4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
 - 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
 - 6 Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Psalm 18

- 2 The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.
- 3 I call to the LORD, who is worthy of praise, and I am saved from my enemies.

Hebrews 10:22-25

- 22 let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.
- 23 Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.
- 24 And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.
- 25 Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Isaiah 40:28-31

- Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom.
- 29 He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.
 - 30 Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall;
 - 31 but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Psalm 47 1-2,6-7

- Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy.
- 2 How awesome is the LORD Most High, the great King over all the earth!
 - 6 Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.
 - 7 For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise.

Exodus 20:1-17

20:1 And God spoke all these words:

2 "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

3 "You shall have no other gods before me.

4 "You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.

5 You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me,

6 but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

7 "You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.

8 "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

9 Six days you shall labor and do all your work,

10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates.

11 For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

12 "Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

13 "You shall not murder.

14 "You shall not commit adultery.

15 "You shall not steal.

16 "You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

17 "You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

Amos 5:14

14 Seek good, not evil, that you may live. Then the LORD God Almighty will be with you, just as you say he is.

Micah 6:8

He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Deuteronomy 8:3b

Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

Alternate Benedictions:

The Lord bless you and keep you:

The Lord make His face to shine upon you,

And be gracious unto you:

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you,

And give you peace. {Numbers 6:24-26}

May we all remain fast and firm in faith, that the glory of glories may rest upon us. Thou art Gracious, the Bountiful, the Merciful, the Compassionate.
-- From the Bahai faith, Abdul Bahai

May the Lord watch between me and thee, While we are absent from one another.

"An Old Irish Blessing"
May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind always be at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
The rain fall soft upon your friends,
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

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"The Scoutmaster's Benediction"
May the great Scoutmaster of all true Scouts
Be with us until we meet again.

Some Additions:

Offering ñ The collection of an offering should be considered. The offering can be donated to the Brotherhood of World Scouting.

Pastoral Prayer ñ A pastoral prayer can be a valuable vehicle for the reinforcing of the practice and method of compassionate care for others. This can be especially important for teenaged boys, who probably have not had much experience with this concept. Styles differ, but the Chaplain can ask the participants if there are any who have friends or relatives who are in need of prayer. The names as given can be added into the pastoral prayer. See the example below, which would be appropriate if Scouts, leaders, and parents were in attendance.

Example Pastoral Prayer:

Let Us Pray:

We approach you, Lord, not simply to proclaim your good news, but to claim your grace for this community and for the world.

We pray for the people of this community, O Lord. Grant that your Spirit will travel through our streets and to our homes. Protect all the children from hunger, abuse, and neglect. Prod us, their parents and leaders, to make sure they learn well, the things that build, and not the things that destroy. Teach us, who are their models and teachers, to care for the generations that you have entrusted to us.

We pray for the people elsewhere in the world who awaken this morning to another day without peace. Grant that they will turn away from weapons that wound, to instruments that heal. Nourish their bodies with strength, their minds with insight, and their souls with hope. Let the nations of the earth know that you have made us one people, no matter where we draw boundaries between us.

We pray for all who are worshiping here today and those outside of this Chapel. We pray for all who are facing transitions and troubles, all who are coping with illness, recovering from loss, and those who may be encountering loneliness and isolation.

Father we especially pray for ...

Bless them, O Lord, with your promises and with your presence so that we can be unafraid to stand with one-another in selfless service to each other, even as we bow before you. In the name of our Creator, Our God, we pray. Amen.