

Day 1 – “Reconciliation and ... TRUTH”

Resources for the service:

- a plain and empty clay flower pot

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Musical preparation

Silence

(stand)

Greeting

Leader: Blessed is our God always, now and ever and to the ages of ages.

All: *Amen.*

Leader: O Lord, open my lips,

All: *And my mouth will declare your praise.*

Leader: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

All: *And put a new and right spirit within me.*

Leader: Do not cast me away from your presence,

All: *And do not take your holy spirit from me.*

Leader: Restore to me the joy of your salvation,

All: *And sustain in me a willing spirit.*

Song: Come, my way, my truth, my life

George Herbert (1593-1633)

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), England
Adapt. E. Harold Geer (1886-1957)

Unison

1. Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a way as gives us breath, such a
2. Come, my Light, my feast, my Strength: such a light as shows a feast, such a
3. Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a joy as none can move, such a

truth as ends all strife, such a life as kill-eth death.
feast as mends in length, such a strength as makes his guest.
love as none can part, such a heart as joys in love.

(sit)

Psalm 15 (read antiphonally)

L: God, who has the right to enter your tent,
or to live on your holy mountain?

I: *Those whose way of life is blameless,
who always do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart,*

II: **whose tongue is not used for slander,
who do no wrong to friends,
cast no discredit on neighbours,**

I: *who look with contempt on the reprobate,
but honour those who fear you,
who stand by a pledge at all cost,*

II: **who do not ask interest on loans,
and cannot be bribed to exploit the innocent.**

L: If they do all this, nothing can ever shake them.

The Essence of Truth

L: Jesus says: The truth will set you free.

(John 8:38)

(The person who is leading this part of the service now takes up the flower pot, holding it in his/her hands while continuing the reading.)

Truth is difficult,
ambiguous,
offensive,
helpful,
essential,
liberating.
Truth is like this: ...

(Here, the prayer leader raises the pot and smashes it into pieces. The broken pot remains on the ground until the end of the service.)

Prayer

L: Grant, O God, that we your followers
may seek the truth
hear the truth
learn the truth
tell the truth
hold the truth

and defend the truth to the death;
 for it is by the truth
 that we will be saved from sin,
 from the power of the Evil One,
 and from the death of the soul.
 We pray in the name of our blessed Lord,
 who for truth's sake
 died and rose again.

All: **Amen**

(based on words of Jan Hus, 1370-1415)

Bible Reading – Zechariah 8: 16

These are the things that you shall do: Speak the truth to one another, render in your gates judgments that are true and make for peace, do not devise evil in your hearts against one another, and love no false oath; for all these are things that I hate, says the Lord.

Meditation

(stand)

Song: Truth is our call

Rima Tarazi, Palestine

Truth is our Call
 Rima Tarazi, Palestine

The musical score is written in 2/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of four staves of music. The first staff has a Dm chord above the first measure and a Gm chord above the last measure. The second staff has a Dm chord above the last measure. The third staff has a Gm chord above the first measure and a Dm chord above the last measure. The fourth staff has an A7 chord above the first measure and a Dm chord above the last measure. The lyrics are provided in English and German below each staff.

1. Truth is our call and jus- tice our claim. The
 2. We shall not give in to fear or to hate; we

1. Wahr - heit und Recht, da - zu du uns rufst. Des
 2. Frei - macht uns Gott von Angst o - der Hass. Sein

will of our God is our van - guard and aim; the
 will speak the truth and we'll strive to be just. With

Le - bens - Ziel nur dein Wil - le be - stimmt. Du
 Recht, sei - ne Wahr - heit ist un - ser - Mass. Mit

God of us all, of the mer - cy and love, of
 love we will stir the con - science of the world: with

Gott al - ler Men - schen voll Lie - be und Gnad, der
 Lie - be ver - wan - deln wir die - se Welt. Ge -

free - dom and peace for all of hu - man -
 pa - tience and faith we'll save our home and land.

Frei - heit und Frie - den will für je - des Kind.
 duld und Hoff - nung un - ser Land er - hält.

Refrain

We'll strive and we'll strive and we will not be still to
 Wir müh'n uns und kämp - fen und ge - ben nicht auf, bis

lift all op - pres - sion with God's help and will. We'll
 Un - recht, Ge - walt, Un - ter - drü - ckung find ein End, dass

raise high the ban - ner of right - eous - ness and truth, we'll
 al - les am En - de zum Gu - ten sich noch wend. Wir

strive and we'll strive and we will not be still.
 müh'n uns, zu än - dern was am Wel - ten Lauf.

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(sit)

Intercessions

L: Gracious God,
 make your people a loving people, show us how to walk in love;
 to be open to you in the very depths of our being.
 Fill us with truth and love, so that we might be your heralds in this world.

In a world where many feel unloved,
 where the truth of who they are is hidden from them,
 make us heralds of truth.

In a world where millions suffer because the truth is not known;
 where media and governments and business create unreal pictures of the world,
 hiding those who suffer, along with the reasons for injustice and the possibility of solutions:
 make us heralds of your truth.

We pray for those who are victims of their own success,
 who suffer because they have sought only the happiness and peace that the world offers.
 Make us heralds of your truth.

Remake us as we worship you, so that our nature is transformed,
 so that actions of truth and love come naturally,
 so that our habits and ethos be deeply shaped by you,
 so that our way of engaging with the world reflects your ways.
 Fill us with grace and truth,
 Fill our world with grace and truth,
 And make us faithful heralds of grace and truth.

All: Amen

(http://www.baptist.org.uk/prayer_worship/downloads/poi_may08.pdf)

(stand)

Song: Tú eres amor

Teresita Savall, Argentina

Teresita Savall, Argentina

Baguala rhythm

Gm Dm Gm 2.* Dm Gm 3.*

Tú e - res a - mor, tú e - res bon - dad, Se -
 You, Source of all love, you, Giv - er of good, O
 Die Lie - be ist dein, die Gü - te ist dein. Um
 Toi, qui es l'a - mour, toi, qui es bon - té. Sei -

Dm Gm 4.* Dm Gm

ñor, da - nos la paz, que el mun - do no pue - de dar.
 God, grant us your peace, the peace that the world can't give.
 Frie - den bit - ten wir: der Frie - den kommt stets von dir.
 gneur, don - ne la paix que seul tu peux nous don - ner.

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Lord's Prayer

Blessing

**All: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine upon us
 and have mercy on us.**

Amen.