

Liturgy of Servanthood

O Lord, our God, your wisdom and power are beyond our comprehension. Yet our hearts know you intimately.

Our love for you and our awe of you join together in our praise to your holy name.

You are the one we turn to when we hear your invitation to be your disciple; when we feel the call to servanthood.

You, O Lord, provide strength and wisdom for each day and hope for the journey.

It is by faith in you that we respond to your call to serve.

We believe that you are our source of love and provide the resources for loving. We believe that you redeem not only our lives but also our actions so that our small human offerings have divine results. We believe that your Spirit empowers us to be all that you created us to be for your purpose.

CASSEL (167 A), hymn 84

Holy God of all creation, give us vision, love and nerve
to respond to our first calling on this earth to care and serve.
Show the world by our example how to live each waking hour,
as we strive to humbly follow, sharing your creative power.

Copyright IBOC/MMF

Yet the call to serve can, at times, be overwhelming. The need before us is more than one person can handle alone.

We thank you, Lord, for calling us to work as one body. Your Body is made manifest in us as we work together to serve your children.

Lord, many people in our community show your love through their actions.

They shelter the homeless. They feed the hungry. They accompany the elderly. They champion the battle with mental illness. They help others become better parents. They donate their blood, their sweat, and their personal belongings.

Lord, many people in our church generously offer their lives to your service.

They teach your word. They visit the sick and home-bound. They provide fellowship for our church family. They serve as leaders and decision makers. They make worship a meaningful experience. They support our ministry in prayer.

Lord, we thank you for organizations like Sunnyside Ministry, Crisis Control, Anthony's Plot and City With Dwellings in our community that make up the tangible body of Christ.

Take my life and let it be yours, make me a servant, Lord.
Let all I do be pleasing to you; make me a servant, Lord.
Seek out my heart and open the door; make me a servant, Lord;
give me the strength to be humble and true; make me a servant, Lord;
make me a servant, Lord; make me a servant, Lord.

Copyright Steve Gray
Used with Permission

Lord, we thank you for these people whom you have joined together for your purpose.

We thank you for people who live what they believe and believe what they live. We thank you for the Spirit of Christ which dwells in such people in our church and community.

By your grace, Lord, we stand among those who will hear you say, "I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, sick and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me."

And we will say, "Lord, when did we see you hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked or in prison?"

And you will assure us, Lord, with your words, "Just as you have done it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

