

Sunday Service Kit (Any Sunday)

A complete order of service for an ordinary Sunday — call to worship, prayers, a Psalm 23 responsive reading, offering sentence, benediction, and two bulletin inserts.

When to use it: Any Sunday of the year, and the default kit for a guest preacher or a lay-led service.

Order of service

1. Prelude / gathering music
2. Call to worship (Scripture below)
3. Opening hymn
4. Invocation
5. Prayer of confession and assurance of pardon
6. Responsive reading
7. Scripture reading
8. Sermon
9. Response — communion, offering, or prayer
10. Closing hymn
11. Benediction

Hymn suggestions (public domain)

- Holy, Holy, Holy
- Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
- Doxology (Old Hundredth)

Suggested preaching text

Psalm 23 or John 10:1-18 — the Shepherd who keeps his own.

Calls to worship

Read one aloud to open the service. Short is better than long — the point is to turn the room toward God before anything else is said.

O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker. For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

Psalm 95:6-7 (KJV)

Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

Psalm 100:1-2 (KJV)

I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD.

Psalm 122:1 (KJV)

But the LORD is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him.

Habakkuk 2:20 (KJV)

Invocation

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open and from whom no secret is hid: we come this morning not because we are worthy, but because thou hast called us. Quiet every distraction, open every ear, and let thy Word do in us what no words of ours can do. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer of confession

Merciful Father, we confess that we have left undone the things we ought to have done, and done the things we ought not to have done. We have loved comfort more than obedience and our own name more than thine. Forgive us, we pray, not because we deserve it but because Christ has borne it. Amen.

Assurance of pardon

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9 (KJV)

Responsive reading

Psalm 23 — The Shepherd Psalm

Leader reads the plain lines; the congregation reads the lines in bold. Print this page in the bulletin exactly as it appears here.

Leader: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Psalm 23:1 (KJV)

People: He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

Psalm 23:2 (KJV)

Leader: He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Psalm 23:3 (KJV)

People: Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Psalm 23:4 (KJV)

Leader: Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Psalm 23:5 (KJV)

All: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Psalm 23:6 (KJV)

Offering sentence

Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7 (KJV)

Benediction

Speak the blessing over the congregation rather than praying it — the biblical pattern is a word given to the people, not a request made on their behalf.

The LORD bless thee, and keep thee: The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.

Numbers 6:24-26 (KJV)

Bulletin inserts — cut along the dashed lines

Photocopy this page, cut on the dashed borders, and slip one into every bulletin or visitor pack. Free to reproduce for church use.

BULLETIN INSERT 1 · BIBLE SUNDAYS

Take this home

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Psalm 23:6 (KJV)

David does not say goodness and mercy wait for him at the end of the road. He says they follow him along it — behind him every day of the week that begins this afternoon. Read Psalm 23 once a day until next Sunday and watch for the two of them.

BULLETIN INSERT 2 · BIBLE SUNDAYS

A verse for the week

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7 (KJV)

Paul's cure for anxiety is not positive thinking; it is a transfer of ownership. Name the worry, hand it over in prayer, add thanksgiving so the handing-over is honest, and let the peace of God stand guard where the worry used to sit.

Service planning notes

Fill this in on the Thursday before and hand a copy to the musicians, the reader, and the sound desk.

Preacher

Sermon title and text

Reader / liturgist

Hymns

Communion / ordinance

Announcements

Notes

More free KJV resources for Sunday at biblesundays.com/sunday — sermon series plans, printables, hymn texts, and free Bible widgets for your church website.