

#ResistHarm Worship Planning Worksheet: February 2020

LOVE

We invite you to incorporate the work of resisting harm into the worship life of your church or group. This worksheet is a tool for use by individuals or groups, as a starting point for finding ways to incorporate #ResistHarm into regular Sunday worship, small group meetings, or vigils and special services; we encourage you to be prayerful and creative as you seek to be faithful to your local context. In the postures of worship, we believe God can do incredible work with us as we resist harm and proclaim the expansive grace of Jesus Christ.

Worship Ideas in February (Love)

Black History Month – Throughout this month, honor Black voices (especially Black LGBTQ+ individuals) through liturgy, poetry, song, liturgical leadership, biographies, Christian education curricula, children's moments, etc.

Brotherhood/Sisterhood/Siblinghood week (3rd week of Feb) – "[The week is dedicated](#) to celebrating differences. While people of different backgrounds and faiths come together, they also reaffirm a commitment to eliminate racial and religious prejudice."

Transfiguration – For sermon inspiration, [listen to this Queer Theology podcast](#) which queers the gospel reading from the lectionary

Ash Wednesday – Repent, confess our sins, especially the perpetuation of oppressive systems and structures, and reorient to the work of reducing harm, partnering with our liberating God.

The expansive love of Jesus Christ for the world beckons us, as his disciples, to love like him. During this season of resistance to the Traditional Plan, let us focus on loving widely by reducing harm intersectionally. February itself meets at the intersections of Black History Month, Ordinary Time, Valentine's Day, the Feast of the Transfiguration, and Ash Wednesday.

[Read about Kimberlé Crenshaw](#), the Black woman responsible for coining the term, "Intersectionality." <https://bit.ly/3a0TYZ5>

What are your local church's traditions during February? How do they connect to our call to resist harm by loving widely?

What images do you connect with the call to love widely? What visuals could you use in your worship space?

Who in your community could be involved in leadership this month? What other local churches can you partner with? Which Black voices will you honor? Who has a life story that connects to your worship themes?

Want to know more about how to connect "resistance" to our Christian faith?

Check out study resources at www.resistharm.org/education. Invite a small group to read and discuss about the long and deep connection between the two.

Whether you begin from lectionary texts or not, we encourage you to prayerfully consider your context. What words, songs, prayers and rituals proclaim God's grace in sacred resistance where you are? What is God calling you to include?

February 2

Lectionary Texts:

Micah 6:1-8

Psalms 15

I Corinthians 1:18-31

Matthew 5:1-12

Ideas for February 2 (4th Sunday after Epiphany)

February 9

Lectionary Texts:

Isaiah 58:1-12

Psalms 112:1-10

I Corinthians

2:1-12, 13-16

Matthew 5:13-20

Ideas for February 9 (5th Sunday after Epiphany; Scouting Sunday)

February 16

Lectionary Texts:

Deut. 30:15-20

Psalms 119:1-8

I Corinthians 3:1-9

Matthew 5:21-37

Ideas for Feb 16 (6th Sunday after Epiphany; Brotherhood/Sisterhood/Siblinghood Week)

February 23

Lectionary Texts:

Exodus 24:12-18

Psalms 99

2 Peter 1:17-21

Matthew 17:1-9

Ideas for February 23 (Transfiguration)

Ash Wednesday

Lectionary Texts:

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Psalms 51:1-17

2 Cor. 5:20b-6:10

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Ideas for February 26 (Ash Wednesday)