



Order of Worship and Communion Liturgy Template Option 1

What is Affirming PIE Day?

Public+Intentional+Explicit= PIE. These are our standards for the full inclusion and celebration of LGBTQIA+ and Two Spirit people. Get your recipes/ ice cream/ creative planning tools ready. **PIE Day 2021, Sunday March 14, is happening!**

We have lots of free resources at www.pieday.ca, including videos designed for use in worship. Please visit, and be sure to register your event or PIE worship

service. Sponsored by [Affirm United/ S'affirmer Ensemble](#) and [Affirming Connections](#). Deep thanks to our supporters and donors who make this project free of charge and open to all.

About this order of service

We commissioned two orders of worship from *enfleshed*, www.enfleshed.com, which has roots in the United Methodist church in the US, and beyond. Thank you to *enfleshed* for placing a Public, Intentional, and Explicit welcome of gender and sexual-diverse people into the sacred space of community worship. Thank you to all in the wider Affirming and affirming movement across northern Turtle Island/ Canada for all you have and will offer in worship, and for creating a safer sacred space.

So often we as trans, non-binary, gender queer, queer, Two Spirit, intersex people, and many more, are made invisible in worship. We become part of generic welcome to everyone, or are cast as being welcome “regardless” or “despite” our diversity, not **because** of it. This is especially true for many racialized and Indigenous LGBTQIA+ people, and LGBTQIA2S people with disabilities.

So be creative in how you interpret and contextualize these resources! Customize them for an online service or event - make it your own! Take the time to name us and celebrate us in all our diversity. May these resources and many others challenge us to embrace and en flesh the radical, prophetic, deeply inclusive call of the Good News.

Call to Worship

Gathered together, we proclaim the Good News of God publicly, intentionally, and explicitly:

This community joyfully affirms God’s love for LGBTQ2SIA people.

The presence of God welcomes the fullness of who we are.

We are people who desire. Who long. Who practice love in many ways.

We celebrate love that is platonic and love that is erotic.

Love that is queer and love that is collective.

We are people who want to know and be known -

for who we've been, who we are, and who we are becoming.

We honor identities in transition.

We delight in authentic self-expression.

Whether trans or intersex or cis, God moves in our becoming.

How wonderful are the many works of God's creative hand!

May all who long for Love's embrace feel their Holy worth.

Opening Prayer

Beloved One, your embrace is a refuge from violence and hatred. Those who have been turned away, forgotten, or persecuted find belonging in you. We hope to embody such love in this place. May we be a sanctuary, a shelter, a safe place to turn. May we endeavor to learn from each other and grow together in love that protects and uplifts. Amen.

Prayer of Illumination

God of wisdom strange and surprising, come and move us. Enliven our faith. Stir our spirits. Stretch our minds and the capacity of our hearts. Let your Word renew our hope and lead us on paths of justice and truth. Amen.

Communion Liturgy

The Holy One be with you

And also with you

Open your hearts to the One who is Love

We open our hearts to you, O God

Let us give thanks to God our Creator

For the One who gifts us with life, we give thanks

We gather here, each a beloved miracle of Divine creation. God have given us so much: We have each other. We have beauty, and courage, and the capacity to dream. These precious lives of ours - so short and vulnerable - they are meant to be lived abundantly, rich in joy, meaning, and connection.

We know, however, that forces of evil work to suppress God's intentions for our lives. White supremacy, anti-LGBTQ2SIA oppression, sexism, and poverty work to strip individuals, communities, and the earth from the ability to thrive.

And so, the miracle of life becomes a burden. People struggle with the will to live. We turn on each other. We hoard resources and numb ourselves to pain and desire. We lose touch with the power of God that illuminates

possibilities for collective liberation.

For this reason, we turn to the Table.

At the Table, we feast on reminders of God's presence with us.

We taste. We eat. We feel.

We encounter Christ among us and within us.

Here, too, we remember all who go without food, without safety, and in search of belonging. We are made alive again, both to the pain and the pleasure of the world's aches and possibilities.

The bread of life nourishes us for the work of justice.

The cup of blessings revives and restores.

We do this in likeness with those who gathered with Jesus on the night of his arrest. In community, he took bread, blessed it, broke it, gave it to all of them and said,

"This is my body which is given for you. Take, eat, and remember me."

After the supper, he did the same with the cup, saying,

"This is a symbol of the new covenant. Drink in remembrance of me."

In remembering the life of Jesus, we remember that the suffering of one us belongs to all of us. And that our joy, our sorrow, and our hope are entangled together.

And so we pray, pour out your Spirit on this bread and this cup, O God. Through these gifts, renew our commitment to love and to one another. Gift us with a taste of your Kingdom that we might work to embody it this day and always. Amen.

[invitation to the Table]

Prayer after communion

Holy Mystery,

Your gifts of grace restore us.

Assured of our worth and renewed in hope,

send us in the power of your Spirit,

to proclaim the Good News that binds the broken hearted,

frees the oppressed,

and rids the world of evil's lies that demean and destroy.

Make it so among us,

that all life may flourish as you intended.

Amen.

Call to Offering

Since its beginning, the church was meant to be a place of chosen family - a community of outcasts and outlaws, dreamers, prophets, and humble disciples of Love. In the company of Divine Presence, we create belonging and nurture justice. With gratitude for the Sacred Labors of Love in this place, let us bring our offerings to God and one another.

Prayer of Dedication

God of Justice, even as we celebrate your love for the LGBTQ2SIA community today, we remember the church has not always done so. We acknowledge the harm that continues to be done in your name today. As we bring our offerings, we bring also a renewed commitment to interrupting prejudice and practicing solidarity. We press on together until people of every sexual orientation and gender identity can live freely and without fear, receiving the love and support all people deserve. Thanks be to you, our guide and our help in making it so. Amen.

Benediction

Beloveds, let us go with hearts full of courage,
that we might practice love that disrupts bigotry.
Let us go with minds open to experiencing God
in ways strange and unexpected, in ways ordinary and everyday.
And let us go with joy,
for the Creator of all life goes with us.
Amen.

Suggested Hymns:

More Voices Hymnal

- Let Us Build a House (All are welcome) - 1
- Praise God for This Holy Ground - 42
- Love Knocks and Waits - 94
- Who is my mother - 178

Voices United:

- Blest Be the Tie that Binds - 602
- For the Healing of the Nations - 678

Songs for the Holy Other

[PDF of full hymnal here](#) (in alphabetical order)

- For Those Who Suffered
- I Shall not leave from by your side
- New Patterns of Loving

Sermon/ homily/ message ideas:

- Ruth and Naomi (Ruth 1) - Themes: 1- The family of God is a chosen family. Like LGBTQ2SIA people who have taken each other in when bio families turn us away, offer shelter and food and support, soo too is the church called to be a community of people who care for each other as if family. 2 - Love leads to solidarity. Like Ruth who pledges to go where Naomi goes, enduring what she endures, prizing togetherness over all-else, we too are called to embody such love for each other. If we say we love LGBTQ2SIA people, what practices of solidarity reveal that love?
- 1 Corinthians 12:12-26 - Themes of the body of Christ as the gifts of the marginalized, practices of solidarity across suffering and oppression, recognizing the entanglement of our lives and livelihood. When the church condemns queer and trans people, it dismembers the body of Christ.