

Option 1

JUSTICE SUNDAY RESPONSIVE READING

Leader

Listen you leaders. Should you not embrace justice? (Mic. 3:1)

Congregation

Together, with God's help, we will embrace justice.

Leader

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God? (Mic. 6:8)

Congregation

Together, with God's help, we will do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with our God.

Leader

Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow. (Isa. 1:17)

Congregation

Together, with God's help, we will seek justice for the oppressed.

Leader

This is what the Lord Almighty says, 'Administer true justice, show mercy and compassion to one another. Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, the alien or the poor and in your hearts do not think evil of each other.'" (Zec. 7:9).

Congregation

Together, with God's help, we will administer true justice as we show mercy and compassion to one another.

Leader

Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy. (Prov. 31:8-9)

Congregation

Together, with God's help, we will not stand silent. We will speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves.

Leader

For this is a people plundered and looted; they are all of them trapped in holes and hidden in prisons; they have become plunder with none to rescue, spoil with none to say, "Restore!" (Isa. 42:22)

Congregation

Together, with God's help, we will rescue and restore neighbors in need.

Leader

The Lord looked and was displeased that there was no justice. He saw that there was no one, he was appalled that there was no one to intervene (Isa. 59:15-16)

Congregation

Together, with God's help, we will intervene for justice.

Leader

The Lord will give a longing for justice to their judges. He will give great courage to their warriors who stand at the gates. (Isa. 28:6)

All

Together, with God's help, we long for justice. In His mercy, we pray for courage. And in His strength, we take our stand to open the gates of justice for those in need.

Option 2

JUSTICE SUNDAY RESPONSIVE READING

Leader

The Lord longs to be gracious to you;
therefore he will rise up to show you
compassion. For the Lord is a God of
Justice. (Isa. 30:18)

Congregation

The Lord loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of his unfailing love. (Ps. 33:5)

Leader

Listen you leaders. Should you not embrace
justice? (Mic. 3:1)

Congregation

Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend
the oppressed. Take up the cause of the
fatherless; plead the case of the widow.
(Isa. 1:17)

Leader

Do not deny justice to your poor people in
their lawsuits. (Ex. 23:6)

Congregation

Hate evil, love good; maintain justice in the
courts. (Am. 5:15)

Leader

Speak up for those who cannot speak
for themselves, for the rights of all who
are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly;
defend the rights of the poor and needy.
(Prov. 31:8-9)

Congregation

I will come to put you on trial, says the
Lord Almighty. I will be quick to testify
against those who defraud laborers of
their wages, who oppress the widows and
the fatherless, and deprive the foreigners
among you of justice. (Mal. 3:5)

Leader

Woe to you teachers of the law and
Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth
of your spices – mint, dill and cumin. But you
have neglected the more
important matters of the law – justice,
mercy and faithfulness. (Mt. 23:23)

Congregation

He has told you, O man, what is good; and
what does the Lord require of you but to
do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly
with your God? (Mic. 6:8)

Leader

For he has set a day when he will judge
the world with justice by the man he has
appointed. He has given proof of this to
everyone by raising him from the dead.
(Acts 17:31)

All

And will not God bring about justice for his
chosen ones, who cry out to him day and
night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell
you, he will see that they get justice and
quickly. (Lk. 18:7)

Thanks be to God.



Excerpt from Gospel Justice

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER ON BIBLICAL JUSTICE

O Lord of all creation, we recognize
that righteousness and justice are the
foundation of Your throne, that love and
faithfulness go before You

Rise up, O Judge of the earth; rise up and
deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted
who have no one to help

Loose the chains of injustice wherever they
may be found

This day we pray for our brothers and
sisters round the world who are enslaved,
forced to do the will of their oppressor

May they know that You hear their cries

Rescue the weak and needy; deliver them
from the hands of the wicked

For we know You work righteousness and
justice for all the oppressed

O God, we pray for those who groan this
day from the effects of a fallen nature,
from oil spills to earthquakes, volcanoes to
floods

Hear their cries

For we know that You secure justice for the
poor and uphold the cause of the needy

Heal our land that justice may once again
roll on like a river and righteousness as a
never-ending stream

Rise up, O Judge of the earth, defend the
cause of the weak and fatherless; maintain
the rights of the poor and oppressed

Raise up people of faith who will do justice,
love mercy and walk humbly before You

Establish justice in our nation and in our
neighborhood

Forgive us, O Lord, when we fall short of
our pledge to be one nation, under God,
indivisible, with liberty and justice for all

As we become more divided by the way
we look, may we know that You judge us
for how we live

Grant us peace and free us from fear

As Lady Liberty raises her torch of hope
in the harbor of New York City, may the
tired, the poor and the huddled masses
yearning to be free continue to find our
shores a refuge and a land of freedom and
opportunity

Forgive us when we fail to provide liberty
and justice for all

Help us understand the needs of the poor
in our own city, and on our own block as
foreclosures continue, jobs are scarce,
government is stretched and laws are
complex

Grant us wisdom to love our neighbor as
ourselves

Empower us to provide a cup of cold water
to those in need, to provide good guidance
and counsel where needed and to hold out
the hope that comes from a loving, just God

Father, may we administer true justice; may
we show mercy and compassion to one
another

Where there is hate, may we show love;
where there is hurt, may we bring healing;
and where there is injustice, may we bring
justice

For we know that good will come to him
who is generous and gives freely, who
conducts his affairs with justice

May we be people of justice that reflect a
God of justice this day and every day until
You establish Your kingdom and right all the
injustices of this world

Amen.