TEAM W MONTH WORKBOOK

THAT EVERY ABILITY MAY WORSHIP

EPISCOPAL EDITION

LOOK INSIDE FOR
Team W Month Liturgy • Bulletin Articles • Activities for Children and Teens
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Dear Religious Leader:

Since we inaugurated the TEAM W: That Every Ability May Worship movement in 1996, more congregations than ever are providing accommodations so that worshippers of all abilities can participate in worship, ministry and leadership roles in houses of faith.

An integral part of the TEAM W: That Every Ability May Worship movement is the annual celebration of TEAM W Month. The TEAM W Month Workbook of liturgy planning aides is provided to encourage your participation.

Please join us in celebrating TEAM W Month. Our faith communities are strengthened when we come together to meet the needs of our members so that parishioners of all abilities can share their gifts at the altar.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Shirley W. Ryan
Chairman
TEAM W MONTH ACTIVITIES

Listed below are ideas for your TEAM W Month event. Use the materials in this workbook to plan your parish celebration.

- With the approval of your pastor, designate a TEAM W Month.
- Apply for a TEAM W or Junior (for children). TEAM W Award grant of up to $1,000 for projects that welcome worshippers of all abilities. Application packets and guidelines are at www.team-w.org. Deadline is October 1st.
- Plan liturgies that focus on the gospel message of inclusion. Use the liturgy guide in this workbook.
- Ask celebrants to preach about St. Samuel Schereschewsky as an example of how parishioners with disabilities contribute to our faith communities.
- Plan a TEAM W Month reception after masses with children’s activities that communicate welcome for all. See I Am “Thumb” Body and the paper doll activity in this workbook. Invite your youth group to assist.
- Place articles in your bulletin about TEAM W Month such as How You Can Make a Difference and quotes from The Vulnerable Journey by Father Henri Nouwen found in this workbook.
- Send out a press release to local media outlets to publicize your TEAM W Month events. See sample press release in this workbook.

TEAM W MONTH PRAYER CARD

A PDF of the TEAM W Month prayer card is available at www.team-w.org. Download, print the prayer card on card stock, double sided and cut the cards apart. Distribute the prayer cards to worshippers during TEAM W Month.
TEAM W MONTH LITURGY

The Feast of St. Samuel Isaac Schereschewsky

A Liturgical Celebration
for
TEAM W: That Every Ability May Worship Month

Collect for Samuel Isaac Schereschewsky

O God, in your providence you called Samuel Isaac Schereschewsky from his home in Eastern Europe to the ministry of this Church, and sent him as a missionary to China, upholding him in his infirmity, that he might translate the Holy Scriptures into languages of that land. Lead us, we pray, to commit our lives and talents to you, in the confidence that when you give your servants any work to do, you also supply the strength to do it; through Jesus Christ your Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

Holy Eucharist: Rite 1

*Although an asterisk indicates where the people stand, please assume any comfortable posture. Kneel, sit, or stand as you are able.

*The Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, p.323

Celebrant: Blessed Be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.
*The Collect for Purity p.323
*The Gloria in excelsis p.324
*the Collect for Joseph Schereschewsky (printed on page 4)
The First Lesson Job 7: 1-4
Psalm 116:10-17 (read responsively by whole verse) p.759
The Second Lesson 2 Corinthians 4:11-18
The Sermon Deacon Seles
*The Nicene Creed p.326
The Prayers of the People (all kneeling) p.328
The Confession of Sin p.331
*The Peace p.332
*The Offertory p.332
*The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer I, p.333
  *The Sursum Corda p.333
  (The Celebrant continues with the Proper Preface of the Day.)
  *The Sanctus
  (After the Sanctus, all kneel and the prayer continues on page 334.)
The Breaking of the Bread p.337
The General Thanksgiving p.339
*The Blessing and Dismissal p.339

*Although an asterisk indicates where the people stand, please assume any comfortable posture. Kneel, sit, or stand as you are able.

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

The Prelude

The Hymn in Procession #623 O Quanta Quelia

“O What Their Joy and Their Glory Must Be”

† The Word of God †

The Opening Acclamation:

Celebrant: Blessed be the one holy and living God.

People: Glory to God forever and ever.
Gloria in excelsis

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God Heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our payer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

*The Collect for Samuel Schereschewsky

Celebrant: God be with you.
People: **And also with you**
Celebrant: Let us pray
(The Celebrant says the collect, printed on page 4)

The Old Testament Reading

After the reading: Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 116:10-17 (chanted by choir and congregation)

10 How shall I repay the Lord*
   For all the good things he has done for me?

11 I will lift up the cup of salvation*
   And call upon the Name of the Lord

12 I will fulfill my vows to the Lord*
   In the presence of all his people.

13 Precious in the sight of the Lord*
   Is the death of his servants.

14 O Lord, I am your servant;*
   I am your servant and the child of your handmaiden;
   You have freed me from my bonds.
15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving.*
   And call upon the Name of the Lord.

16 I will fulfill my vows to the Lord*
   In the presence of all his people,

17 In the courts of the Lord’s house,*
   In the midst of you, O Jerusalem.
   Hallelujah!

*The Epistle 2 Corinthians 4: 11-18

After the reading: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Gradual Verse and Alleluia (The cantor sings the verse, all sing the response.)

Cantor: Al-le-lu-ia

People: Al-le-lu-ia, Al—le- lu- ia.


Before the Gospel the People say: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the Gospel People say: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

*The Nicene Creed (Said by all.)

We believe in one God,
   The Father, the Almighty,
   Maker of heaven and earth,
   Of all that is seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
   The only son of God,
   Eternally begotten of the Father
God from God, Light from Light,
True God from true God,
Begotten, not made,
Of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.

For us and for our Salvation
He came down from heaven;
By the power of the Holy Spirit
He became incarnate from the Virgin Mary
And was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
In accordance with the Scriptures;
He ascended into heaven
And is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
And his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the lord, the giver of life,
With the father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He was spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
And the life of the world to come. Amen

*The Prayers of the People: A Litany for Wholeness

Leader Let us pray for God’s people.
For people who are blind and cannot, see and for those who can see but are blind to people around them.
People God, in your mercy help us to reach each other.

Leader For people who move slowly because of accident, illness, or disability; and for those who move too fast to be aware of the world in which they live.
People God, in your mercy help us to work together.
Leader For people who are deaf and cannot hear, and for those who can hear but who ignore the cries of others.
People **God, in your mercy help us to respond to each other.**

Leader For people who learn slowly, for people who learn in different ways, and for people who learn quickly and easily but often choose ignorance.
People **God, in your mercy help us to grow in your Wisdom.**

Leader For people who have chronic illness for which there is no known cure or relief, and for people who live in unholy fear of developing a chronic illness.
People **God, in your mercy help us and heal us.**

Leader For families, friends and caregivers who serve people with disabilities, and for those who feel awkward in their presence.
People **God, in your mercy help us to see each other with your eyes.**

Leader For people who think they are worthless and beyond your love, and for people who think they don’t need your love.
People **God in your mercy help us accept your love.**

Leader For people who feel isolated by their disabilities, and for people who contribute to that sense of isolation.
People **God in your mercy change our lives.**

Leader For all the people in your creation, that we may learn to respect each other and learn how to live together in your peace.
People **God, in your mercy bind us together.**

**Celebrant** Let us pray,

Gracious God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**All** Amen
The Confession of Sin

Deacon Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence

Celebrant and People

God of Mercy,

We confess that we have sinned against you,
Opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
   In ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
   The evil we have done,
   And the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
Through our Savior Jesus Christ,
That we may abide in your love
And serve only your will, Amen

The Absolution

Celebrant

Christ, be present among your people now, you who knew suffering, who showed compassion to all you met, who ate with sinners and tax collectors, the blind, the rich and the poor. Drive out from us all indifference to the needs of others. Drive out our fear of bodies that are weak, that look different, that do not function as they might. Drive out from us all thoughts and feelings that we might be superior, or that we might be less than others, or that we might be foolish, insignificant, repulsive, or sinful because of our disabilities. Fill us all with a sense of our own vulnerability, with kindness, and with the spirit of your unbounded hospitality as you invite all to the Feast. Move us to share that Feast as true sisters and brothers in faith, and may the God of love visit you in your times of trial and weakness, and raise you to newness of life, through Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen
*The Peace*

Celebrant   The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People     And also with you.

† The Holy Communion †

*The Offertory Hymn #632          Munich  
“O Christ, the World Incarnate”

*The Great Thanksgiving          Eucharistic Prayer A, p.361

*Sursum Corda*

Celebrant   The Lord be with you
People      And also with you

Celebrant   Lift up your hearts
People      We lift them up to the Lord

Celebrant   Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
People      It is right to give him thanks and praise

The Celebrant continues:

It is right and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn, to proclaim the glory of your Name.

Holy, Holy, Holy (sung by choir and congregation)

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is
he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant

Wise and gracious God, Creator of all good things, Redeemer of this broken world, you who are present with your people, we pray to you.

We remember the truth about your fear, anger and grief, for you, too, were forsaken, ignored and despised. We pray to you, the source of love in the world, the beginning of justice in history, the origin of peace on earth. You lead your people out of bondage into freedom. You receive us into your Body and we are made complete. By your wounds we are healed.

O most Holy Spirit, who brought us together to imitate our brother Christ, unite us in one Body with him. Consecrate us and these gifts of human making. May they be for us, as we are for each other, the Body and Blood of Christ. Bless us to be the life-giving Blood of Christ to creation. Sanctify us to be his nourishing Body, so that the world may become wholly one with you.

Before Christ, who was Servant to the world, ascended to the cross, he sat down to table with those who would carry his invitation to all people. He blessed the bread and broke it, giving it to them saying: “This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said: “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Pilgrims in this world, we proclaim the mystery of our faith, that Christ reveals the way,

Celebrant and people

Dying, you destroyed our death. Rising, you restored our life. Christ Jesus, come in glory!
The Celebrant continues

Lord, God of our mothers and fathers, open our minds and our hearts to see your hand at work in the world around us, especially in each other. Let us approach each person as your own child, loved not because we are capable, but because we are completely dependent upon you. God of possibilities, help us to break away from the world’s definitions of wholeness and illness, for we are all born needy and we will all die. You gave us life everlasting and you restore us to your self. Make us one with Christ, one with each other and one in service to the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, now and forever. Amen

Celebrant

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

The Fraction Anthem (sung by choir and congregation)

Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread. The Bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ. One body are we, alleluia, for though many we share one bread.

Facing the people, the celebrant says the following invitation:

The gifts of God for the People of God.
The people come forward to receive the Sacrament as they are able, either standing or kneeling at the Altar Rail. If you are unable to come forward, please notify an usher, and we will bring the Sacrament to you.

At the Communions

Hymn #440  
Liebster Jesu  
“Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word”

Hymn #304  
Land of Rest  
“I Come with Joy to meet My Lord”

The Post communion Prayer

Celebrant  Let us pray.

Celebrant and the People

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen

The Blessing

The wisdom of God, the love of God and the Grace of God strengthen you to be Christ’s hands and heart in this world, in the name of the Holy Trinity. Amen

*The Closing Hymn #539  
Tidings  
“O Zion Haste, Thy Mission High Fulfilling”

*The Dismissal

Celebrant  Let us go forth into the world,
Rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People  Thanks be to God.

The Postlude
Acknowledgements


As stated in *Enriching Our Worship II* (p. 9). “The primary purpose of these materials has been to provide texts using inclusive and expansive language, that is, language which expands the images used to speak and pray to God, and language in which all worshipers find themselves, and their religious experience of God as revealed in Christ, more completely.”

This particular liturgy, in recognition of TEAM W Month, seeks to expand the language of worship to speak specifically to those with disabilities.

Our thanks to Reverend Deborah Seles who compiled the liturgy materials for a celebration of TEAM W Month at St. Christopher parish, Oak Park Illinois.

This liturgy aide was created for a celebration of the feast of St. Samuel Schereschewsky, transferred to a Sunday within TEAM W Month, with permission.
INVolVING CHILDREN IN TEAM W MONTH

I AM ‘THUMB’ BODY ACTIVITY

Materials:
Large table
Large pieces of banner paper
Stamp pads in various colors
Black Thin Tipped Felt Markers
Disposable wipes to clean thumbs

Spread the large sheets of banner paper on the table. Write “I Am Thumb Body” in the center of each banner in large letters. Invite children and adults to coat their thumbs/fingers lightly on the stamp pads and press their prints onto the large banner paper to make a head and a body. Use the markers to draw eyes, nose, mouth, hair, arms, legs, clothes etc. on your thumbprint portrait. Sign your name below your portrait. Clean off thumbs with wipes. When each paper is covered with thumbprint people, display the banner for all to see.

PAPER DOLL ACTIVITY

Materials:
Roll of banner art paper
Paper dolls (pre-cut and punched)
Yarn pieces (pre-cut)
Crayons

Set up tables with supplies. Invite children to decorate a pre-cut paper doll of themselves with crayons. String dolls together by inserting yarn into holes in hands of dolls and tying together. Write “We are All Different Yet All Alike in the Eyes of the Lord” in large letters on the banner paper. Attach the yarn joined dolls to the banner and display for all to see.
Cut Out Dolls for Paper Doll Activity

Materials:
Stiff card stock paper, scissors, ball point pens, paper doll templates, hole punch, yarn

Trace paper doll outline onto white cardstock and cut out one paper doll for each child participating. Punch holes in hands of dolls. Cut lengths of yarn long enough to tie dolls together at the hands.
EDUCATIONAL BULLETIN SERIES

Download the series of eight educational bulletin items at www.team-w.org and run in bulletins, on websites or in newsletters so every parishioner can do their part to welcome worshippers of all abilities.
HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

There are many things that you, as an individual, can do to help people with disabilities feel welcome in your house of faith.

1. I will treat ALL people as PEOPLE FIRST – as I would like to be treated.

2. I will SPEAK DIRECTLY to the person with a disability, not only to the nearby family member, companion, interpreter, or the canine companion.

3. I will offer to SHAKE HANDS when introduced to a person with a disability. (Persons with limited hand use or who wear an artificial limb may shake hands. Shaking the left hand is okay, too.)

4. I will place myself at EYE LEVEL, in front, for easy conversation with a person in a wheelchair, with crutches, or with a walking frame.

5. I will OFFER ASSISTANCE AND WAIT until the offer is accepted. I will wait and then ask for instructions.

6. I will be PATIENT AND WAIT for the person with difficulty speaking, rather than speaking for the person. I may help by asking short questions that require short answers, a nod, or a shake of the head.

7. I will see the WHOLENESS OF SPIRIT beneath the surface of someone with a disability and overcome the tendency to turn away or ignore the person.

8. I will TREAT ADULTS with developmental disabilities AS ADULTS, not as children. I will use first names only when using the same familiarity for all persons.

9. I will get the attention of someone who is hearing-impaired by LIGHTLY TAPPING their elbow or shoulder, or by WAVING MY HAND. I will look directly at the person and speak clearly, slowly, and expressively to establish if the person can read my lips.

10. I will guide a person with visual impairments by GIVING VERBAL CLUES to steps, curbs, escalators or doors.
QUOTES FROM THE VULNERABLE JOURNEY BY FATHER HENRI NOUWEN

Father Henri Nouwen laid the spiritual foundation for the Pathways TEAM W: That Every Ability May Worship ministry with his keynote address *The Vulnerable Journey* at the 1996 conference on inclusion. The conference inaugurated TEAM W: That Every Ability May Worship. *The Vulnerable Journey* by Father Henri Nouwen is available from Pathways.org in DVD and CD format. Call 1-800-955-2445 or order online at www.team-w.org.

“The great mystery of our faith is that we get closest to God when we are willing to be vulnerable, when we are willing to say, ‘I need somebody else’.”

*Father Henri Nouwen*
*The Vulnerable Journey*

“I suddenly realized that it was not in strength and power that God was coming to me, but in weakness.”

*Father Henri Nouwen*
*The Vulnerable Journey*

“One of the great gifts of people with visible disabilities is that they help those of us with invisible disabilities to get in touch with them.”

*Father Henri Nouwen*
*The Vulnerable Journey*

“You have to rediscover that the church is a fellowship of the weak, that the church is a place where God shows his unconditional love through poverty, the poverty of Jesus and the poverty of the followers of Jesus, and that the most poor and the most weak belong right in the center, right in the heart.”

*Father Henri Nouwen*
*The Vulnerable Journey*
PRESS RELEASE

Use this sample press release to publicize your congregation’s TEAM W Month celebration. Fill in your congregation’s information and send the press release to the religion editor of your neighborhood newspaper several days before your event. Follow up with a call to see if the paper will cover TEAM W Month at your parish.

For Immediate Release

Contact:
(Date)
(Your name)
(Your phone and email)

Chicago Area Parishes Celebrate TEAM W Month

(Your town), Illinois – During ____ (insert month and parish) ____will join other faith traditions in Chicago in observing TEAM W Month. TEAM W Month is an integral part of the Pathways.org TEAM W: That Every Ability May Worship movement which raises awareness to the need for accommodations so that people of all abilities can participate in worship and ministries at their house of faith.

____ (Insert name of parish) ____ welcomes those with disabilities every Sunday and seeks to enable their full participation in the life of the church. By observing TEAM W Month we hope to further educate parishioners about the needs of people with disabilities in our midst, as well as to recognize the tremendous value that they add to our community.

(Name and address of your parish) will (list your events, e.g.: have a special liturgy, bless new accessible features, etc.) to showcase how people with disabilities are welcomed every day of the year.

(Insert the name and title of your religious leader and a quote, e.g. “In the past year our parish has made a conscious effort to make our facilities accessible. We are delighted that we can open our doors to all.”).

For more information about TEAM W Month visit www.team-w.org or call 1-800-364-1337 or email friends@pathways.org.
TEAM W AND JUNIOR TEAM W AWARDS

The national, interfaith TEAM W and Junior (submitted by children 5 to 18 years old) TEAM W Awards are cash grants of up to $1,000 for specific, planned projects that promote access, welcome and belonging for worshippers of all abilities in houses of faith, religious schools and faith formation programs.

Annual deadline for applications is October 1st. Grants are announced in December.

Application packets, guidelines, a winning essay with photos and a winning video are available at www.team-w.org or call 1-800-364-1337 for more information.

We hope you will consider submitting an application for a TEAM W Award or facilitate children or youth from your parish to submit a Junior TEAM W Award application. Our lesson plan series can help.

DIFFERENT GIFTS, SAME SPIRIT LESSON PLAN SERIES

Use the High School level Different Gifts, Same Spirit lesson plans (available at www.TEAM-W.org or from Loyola Press) at your Youth Group meeting. Discuss everyone’s gifts. Have the students do a walkthrough of your parish plant noting inaccessible areas. The Facilities Survey available at www.ream-w.org can help with this activity. Discuss ways your parish could be more accessible. Ask students to create a video explaining how they would use a $1,000 grant from TEAM W: That Every Ability May Worship to improve access at their church. For ideas see the video by students from St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School, Phoenix, Arizona at www.team-w.org. With the approval of your pastor submit the video and a completed application for a Junior TEAM W Award grant.

Different Gifts, Same Spirit lesson plans for elementary and junior high students are also available at www.team-w.org or from Loyola Press.

The story of your congregation’s efforts to welcome people of all abilities and your expertise from completing your project could help others.
ABOUT TEAM W: That Every Ability May Worship

The TEAM W Month Workbook is a publication of Pathways.org, a Chicago based non-profit. The TEAM W: That Every Ability May Worship movement is a national, interreligious program that provides information and educational materials to congregations of all faith traditions about welcoming worshippers of all abilities and their families.

TEAM W RESOURCES:

- [www.team-w.org](http://www.team-w.org) website with free handouts and educational materials
- The TEAM W and Junior (for children) TEAM W Awards grant up to $1,000 for congregational efforts to welcome worshippers of all abilities. **Annual deadline for applications is October 1st.** Grants are announced in December. Application packets and guidelines are available at [www.team-w.org](http://www.team-w.org).
- *Different Gifts, Same Spirit* Lesson Plan Series for religious educators
- TEAM W Month Workbook for Eastern Orthodox parishes
- TEAM W Month Workbooks for Roman Catholic parishes
- Inclusion Shabbat Workbook for Jewish congregations
- TEAM W Month Workbook for Episcopal parishes
- TEAM W Month Workbook for Protestant congregations