 currents...  
... a selected reading program by CENTER

unitarian and universalist worship  
traditions

selected bibliography


The two are bound together with the hymn book first, followed by the service book which includes a lectionary for 52 Sundays plus holy days. The lessons which are inserted as an aid in lay services include morning and vespers services, in addition to Admission to the Christian Church, Communion, Marriage, and Burial. There is a 30 day Psalter. There are a number of revisions of this text with differences in prayers and in the number and variety of services.

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Section C on worship has a history section.

Ballou, Silas. New Hymns... Newbury, Vermont: Nathaniel Coverly, 1797.

A book of hymns (all scriptures) and psalms.


Several editions, later published by Beacon Press. Models for many services, how to use them, suggestions for use of hymns and services, additional readings for youth of different ages.


This is the ninth edition, the first of which was published in 1785. Great resource for services and prayers, with hymns, psalter, special lessons, and lectionaries for both daily and Sundays/Holy Days, the latter being divided into three years.


There are services for various special occasions included. Several editions exist.


Some editions are bound with services prepared by John R. Efinger and with Unity Services and Songs (copyright 1894) which includes 14 services with readings from sacred scriptures of various religions.


center
Continuing Education Network for Training, Enrichment, and Renewal
June 1999
Boston: Unitarian Sunday-School Society, 1907, c 1895.
Outlines 10 regular services along with special services: Christmas, Easter, 
Flower or Children’s Sunday, Harvest or Thanksgiving, Anniversary, 
Commemoration, Temperance, Patriotism, and the usual Consecration of 
Christening and Memorial services.

The Liturgy of the Czechoslovak Church. Praha: General Council of the Czechoslovak 
Church, 1931.
This small book/pamphlet gives the entire pattern, with words, for the liturgy in five parts.

Priestley, [Joseph B.]. Views of Christian Truth, Piety, and Morality, Selected 
from the Writings of Dr. Priestley, Memoir by Henry Ware, Jr. Cambridge: James 
Munroe and Co., 1834.
Preface and lengthy memoir of Dr. Priestley by Henry Ware, Jr. with a number of 
sermons and other writings of Priestley, including essays on family worship, 
sabbath observance, and communion.

Rayner, Menzies. The Universalist Manual or Book of Prayers and Other Religious 
Exercises. . . 5th ed. 
A manual on how to do worship, with special services for weddings, funerals, 
and an order for a general service. Hymns are in the back. One of several 
editions.

St. Paul’s Church, Chicago. A Book of Services and Responsive Readings. Chicago: 
John Morris, 1891.
A book of services for various occasions for this particular Universalist 
Church, with responsive readings for each day of the month.

Services of Religion for Use in the Churches of the Free Spirit. Boston: Beacon 
Original edition published by Universalist Publishing House. [Front cover: 
Hymns of the Spirit.] Bound with Hymns of the Spirit. There are responsive 
readings, sixteen orders of service, of which five are special days, communion 
and new member services, and additional prayers and other elements for 
services.

Sillaman, Vincent. We Speak of Life. Boston: Starr King Press, dist. by Beacon, 
1955.
A compilation of responsive readings from various sources designed to accompany 
the hymnal We Sing of Life.

Silloway, Thomas W. Cantica Sacra; an Aid to Devotion. Boston: N.E. Universalist 
Publishing House (Cornhill Press), 1865.
Silloway, minister at Brighton, published orders of service covering each day 
of the month.

The Sunday School Liturgy, 7th ed. Boston: American Unitarian Association, 1867, 
1856.
There are 43 lessons which end with Christmas. One of many editions.

Unity Festivals. Chicago: Western Unitarian Sunday School Society, 1884.
A book of festival services with music, for seasonal holidays and three other 
services: National service, Christening, and an annual Covenant 
service.

Universalist General Convention. The Gospel Liturgy: A Prayer-Book for 
Year-round services with selections of Psalms and other scriptures. 
Various editions.

Unitarian Universalist Association. Singing the Living Tradition. Boston: 