Prayer for a Student Jubilee

Depending on your faith tradition and the way your community organizes worship you can use the following to pray alongside communities across the country. Please feel free to incorporate the below prayer or alter it where it best fits in your weekend service. In each of your communities you can find the most appropriate place to come together in worship around this important issue.

If appropriate, first introduce to the community the realities at hand:

Outstanding student debt is now over $1.3 trillion and it continues to increase at a dramatic rate. The average four-year college graduate owes $35,000 in student debt and according to the Federal Reserve, student debt obligations nearly quadrupled from 2004 to 2015. High interest rates make debt repayment difficult and leave our students with heavy financial burdens.

Interfaith prayer:

We pray for students, our future, may they not be burdened with unjust and unsustainable debts as they seek to expand their knowledge and prepare to take up the responsibilities as tomorrow's leaders.

We pray for those who currently struggle with student loan payments, and those who may struggle in the future.

We pray for the Members of Congress who must make difficult decisions in hard economic times, that they will support and maintain student loan affordability and help to make a more fair and just future.

We pray that Congress will act in a way that supports students and broader social equity and justice across our communities.

Jubilee for Students Weekend is a national interfaith prayer event to build support for affordable education and fair student lending practices.

Jubilee USA Network is an alliance of more than 75 US organizations, 400 faith communities and 50 Jubilee global partners. Jubilee's mission is to build an economy that serves, protects and promotes the participation of the most vulnerable. Jubilee USA Network has won critical global financial reforms and more than 130 billion dollars in debt relief for the world's poorest people.