

Harvest/Remembrance

receiving and sharing God

AIMS

To provide a simple liturgy for corporate use as an Approach to God during worship.

INTRODUCTION

This piece is intended to be read by a single voice for the first section – perhaps with suitable power-point backgrounds/pictures accompanying the words. The second section should be read corporately – again, using suitable pictures/backgrounds on power-point if desired.

Alternatively, there could be some drama/dance to accompany the first section. If there is time for adequate practice, you can experiment - using different voices for different verses during the first section.

It is important to include the pauses - they give people time to receive from God at each stage.

When incorporating this prayer into a longer act of worship, a suitable song or blessing after the final pause could be helpful.

PRAYER OF APPROACH: RECEIVING AND SHARING OUR GOD

Part One

I come before God ...
and realise how empty I am.

I come before God ...
and realise how little I understand of Him.

I come before God ...
and realise how I rely on Him for everything.

I come before God ...
and know my need of Him. (pause)

I come before God ...
and smile
as He gives me everything ...
- as He gives me Himself!

God gives ...
with joy and generosity!

God gives ...

Harvest/Remembrance

receiving and sharing God

with abundance and eagerness
that takes my breath away!

God gives ...
I receive ...
I am truly blessed
- and eager to share this most Holy and devoted God
with others
who are empty. (pause)

Part Two (sections in bold type to be read by all)

Let's go to God together,
and feel His welcoming embrace. (pause)

Let's go to God together,
and know His overwhelming generosity. (pause)

Let's go to God together,
and receive. (pause)

Let's go to God together,
and be blessed. (pause)

As we marvel at God's generosity and overflow with His joy,
**so we are eager to share this most Holy and devoted God
with others who are empty** (pause)

Amen

Harvest/Remembrance

receiving and sharing God

MORE IDEAS

This prayer could be used during a communion service. Up to the final verse may be said before taking communion and the final verse, "As we marvel ..." may be said (or repeated) after receiving communion.

If circumstances allow, it is effective to include movement along with the spoken word, so that as you say, "Let's go to God ..." the group are actually moving forward together. Try reading Part 1 of the prayer outside the doors of your sanctuary, or with the congregation at the rear of the church, then open the doors and move in together or walk towards the front of the church to read Part 2. Obviously, care will need to be taken if reading and walking at the same time (!) and consideration given to those with limited mobility.

EVALUATION

Please try to answer these questions for yourself and for others who will use this material:

1. What was the most helpful thing?
2. What was the least helpful thing?
3. What would you like to try now?

Acknowledgements

This material was prepared by Ruth Sermon, to whom copyright belongs, and who has given permission for it to be used in the Vision4life process.

HOW TO FEEDBACK TO VISION4LIFE?

If you wish to offer any feedback – brickbats and bouquets are equally welcome! – you can do so in various ways.

You can email the Vision4Life steering group about general or website V4L issues via the website or at admin@vision4life.org.uk

If you have comments and particularly contributions to the prayer year, you can email the V4L prayer year coordinator via prayer@vision4life.org.uk

If you want to make contributions or ask questions about other V4L years you can email:

Year 3 – Transformed for Evangelism: evangelism@vision4life.org.uk