



Exodus Liturgical Resources

Week Five

Exodus 35:1-10; 36:2-7; (40:34-38)

Opening Sentence

And they came, everyone whose heart was stirred and everyone whose spirit was willing, and brought the Lord's offering for the tent of meeting; so they came, both men and women.'
(Exodus 35: 21,22).

Penitence

When we have sown sparingly;
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

When we have given reluctantly;
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

That we may know the joy of cheerful giving;
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Stewardship Network Resource Book (adapted)

Collect

Heavenly Father,
you taught us by your Son Jesus Christ
that all our possessions come from you:
help us to be faithful stewards of our time,
our talents and our wealth,
and to consecrate gladly to your service
a due proportion for all that you have given us.
Take us and make us your own;
for Jesus Christ's sake

God is with us

The details for this activity are given in the [Warming Up](#), [Warming Down](#) resource file for Week 5. The following outline could be used as a lead into or part of the intercessions.

When we ... (activity from the list)

God is with us.

When we ... (activity from the list)

God is with us.

In every place,
in every action,
at every moment.

Father, you are with us.

Jesus, you stay beside us.

Spirit of God, you live in us.

It's mine, it's yours

For this prayer of response it can be helpful to use an object to represent each of the categories listed. The leader could bring personal items, or ask several people to bring one item each. Spend a few moments showing and talking about these first to set the scene. Explain that individuals can imagine their own items in each category as we pray. On the words, 'It's mine' the leader holds the object to him or herself while the congregation or group hold their hands clasped to themselves. As everyone says 'Lord, it's yours' the leader puts the relevant object on a table or in the centre of the group while the rest turn their hands palm upwards as a sign of giving to God. The opening prayer may be said by the leader, or by everyone together.

Lord God, everything we have is a gift from you. Forgive us for being selfish, wanting to say 'It's mine', instead of using your gifts in a way that will make you happy.

Think of something you own which is precious to you.

(A precious object.)

It's mine, **Lord, it's yours.**

Think of something you are good at.

(Something you have made or done.)

It's mine, **Lord, it's yours.**

Think of a place you love to be. (Picture or map.)

It's mine, **Lord, it's yours.**

Think of your favourite time of day. (Clock.)

It's mine, **Lord, it's yours.**

Think of a friend – and the times you enjoy together. (Photos)

It's mine, **Lord, it's yours.**

Think of any money you own – however much or little. (Cash, credit card or, cheque book.)

It's mine, **Lord, it's yours.**

Think of yourself and all that you will be in the future.

(Picture of yourself.)

It's mine, **Lord, it's yours.**

Intercessions

The prayers can be built around the "God in every place" activity in the [Warming Up](#), [Warming Down](#) resources for this Week 5. Use a camera to catch pictures of the local community and build simple intercessions around the main images - schools, factories, surgeries, shopping areas etc.

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Offertory

O Lord our God, maker of all things.
Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts.
With them we offer ourselves to your service
and dedicate our lives
to the care and redemption of all that you have made,
for the sake of him who gave himself for us,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

*From Lutheran Book of Worship, © 1978,
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Post communion prayer

There is a rich tradition in the Methodist Church of holding an annual Covenant Service, usually at New Year. Use its closing prayer either as a post communion prayer or as a corporate act of commitment at the end of this preaching series within Giving in Grace. Spend a few minutes reflecting on these words:

Leader. Eternal God, in your faithful and enduring love you call us to share in your gracious covenant in Jesus Christ.
In obedience we hear and accept your commands;
in love we seek to do your perfect will;
with joy we offer ourselves anew to you.
We are no longer our own but yours.

People: I am no longer my own, but yours.
Your will, not mine, be done in all things,
wherever you may place me,
in all that I do and in all that I endure;
when there is work for me and when there is none;
when I am troubled and when I am at peace.

**Your will be done when I am valued;
and when I am disregarded;
when I find fulfilment and when it is lacking;
when I have all things and when I have nothing.**

**I willingly offer all that I have and am
to serve you where you choose.
Glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
you are mine and I am yours.
May it be so for ever.
Let this covenant now made on earth,
be fulfilled in heaven. Amen.**

Blessing

May God the Giver of all good gifts
pour out upon you his richest blessing
that you may always have all that you need
and that from his gracious abundance
you might know the joy of generosity
and the blessing

