



Jr. High Youth Gathering 2020 Worship Elements

Invocation

Listen up, all you people! Pay attention! Everyone... from the highest to lowest, the proud and humble together, tune your ears to hear good news! Christ is revealed in worship! We come with hope and open ears to meet the One who is our all in all. Come Lord Jesus!

That is one example of an invocation. An invocation is when we invite God into our worship! An easy way to remember this is to think about the “in” at the beginning of invocation! The one you maybe have most commonly heard is, “In the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy spirit, we welcome you to worship.”

Confession and Forgiveness

Hey guys! My name is Laela. I am from Atwater and I go to school at ACGC. I have been a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church for almost five years. Before we pray together, I want to share with you a little bit about what Confession and Forgiveness means. When you confess something to the Lord, you are admitting to God your sins and wrongdoings in order to receive forgiveness from him! You are coming before God as if to say “Lord, I know what I did and I am not proud of it. Please forgive me.” Right now, I want you to think of something you would like to confess to the Lord. Take a second and either say or write these words (or word) into your hand and hold it there while we pray. At the end of the prayer, you will be able to let these sins go. Let us pray...

Heavenly God,

You invite us to love with a love like yours. You call for us to care as you would, and be accepting and patient toward our neighbors. You ask us to openly share the great news of you and your love, Lord, and speak up when we see injustice.

Every day we fail to do these things. We do not love others the way that you love us, we are not accepting of our neighbors, and we shut down when it becomes our time to speak up. We become invisible.

Forgive us, Lord, extend your grace upon us, and enable us to become the people that you call us to be.

Amen.

Now, I'd like for you to take the word or words in your hands. Release them. Open your hands as if you were to let go of a balloon. God promises to forgive us each and every day- over and over and over again. Just as quickly as the wind grabs a balloon, our God grabs our sins so that we may be forgiven.

Now I declare to you, because of how AWESOME our God is, the forgiveness of your sins!

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray the Prayer of the Day. Dear God, walk with us when we meet resistance, help us overcome it. When we feel like we're drowning, help us swim. When the enemy is near, be our armor and let your word be our sword. Help us persevere. We pray this in your holy and precious name, Amen.

Prayers of the People

God you promise to hear our prayers. As your people gather in worship, hear us now as we join voices lifting our prayers to you.

Dear Jesus, we pray for our climate, we pray for the scientists who are studying it. We pray that our world would come together to work to find solutions that are sustainable for everyone. We pray for anyone who is dealing with the effects of climate change right now and all of those who are affected by natural disasters and major weather events. Please keep them safe and please let them know you are with them. Lord in your mercy...

Heavenly father we pray for your guidance in strengthening our youth groups. We pray that our youth is able to find a way to freely and confidently worship you. We pray for the love and support from our mentors and peers as we embrace your word and do all things through you. Help us, Lord, to also feel YOUR love and presence as we continue on our journey to you. Lord in your mercy...

Lord, please send healing to anybody who has been affected or infected with COVID-19 or any other illness. I pray that their healing goes smoothly and that everyone ends up being all right. Lord I pray that everybody is staying healthy during this winter and this flu season. I pray that you will give the doctors and nurses and anyone who is in the medical field release of anxiety, depression. Lord I pray that anybody who is feeling alone will reach out in your presence. Lord in your mercy...

God, we pray for unity and peace within our homes, our work and school, our communities, our nation and the world. Please send your spirit of peace amongst us all and help us remember you are our sense of peace in calm times and in times of storm.

Into your hands oh God, we entrust for all we pray... Amen

Blessing

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.