

Dedication of Gifts to the Church

During worship, the minister and the clerk of session, or another church member, stand in close proximity to the item. Those giving the gift or committee members responsible for arranging for the installation, etc., may also come forward.

Clerk of session or designated church member:

A gift of _____
(A description of the gift and the purpose for which it was given may be stated.)

has graciously been made to _____ Church by _____.
(If an individual, a group in the congregation or if funds for the item are the result of a congregational effort, this may be mentioned briefly. Respect wishes of anonymity by the donor.)

Or

Clerk of session or designated church member:

A gift of _____
(A description of the gift and the purpose for which it was given may be stated.)

has been made to _____ Church by _____.
(If an individual, a group in the congregation or if funds for the item are the result of a congregational effort, this may be mentioned briefly. Respect wishes of anonymity by the donor.)

in loving memory of _____.
(If the gift is given in memory of an individual, in a brief sentence the elder or minister may describe the contribution and/or relationship of the individual to the congregation. Again, respect a desire for anonymity.)

Minister or worship leader:

This gift is given to the glory of God and for the enhancement of worship *(or name the program)* and our life in Christ. Let it serve as a reminder of God's grace in our midst and of the value of our community of faith in this place. Let it also serve to call us to deeper devotion and richer service.

An appropriate reading from the Bible or *Living Faith* may be included here.

Prayer:

Let us pray.
Eternal God, whom the generations have worshipped in

beauty and holiness, accept our praise and thanksgiving for your faithfulness and love.

We thank you for the extravagance of your grace and the wise tenderness of your creativity evident around us. Instead of a world that contains only the useful and the expedient, you create a world of extravagant beauty and joy. Instead of creating people who are motivated only by work, you create your people with a capacity for rejoicing and worship.

Instead of enduring our anxious hoarding and grasping, you call us to generosity and hope. Instead of a community that is an expression of only what is practical and utilitarian, your church is a community whose purpose is worship, whose nature is love, whose energy is joy, and whose life is filled with glad thanksgiving. For encouraging us to create beauty that nurtures the spirit, we thank you.

For the eternal circle of giving and receiving that is our life in you, we offer you praise.

In the name of Jesus, our Christ, we pray. **Amen**

Dedication:

For this gift of _____ we give you thanks. We dedicate this gift to your glory, and for the use of your people in this place we ask your blessing. May this gift be a tangible symbol of your presence among us, and of the faith and love that inspire all acts of generosity and kindness.* In honour of the sacrifices made for your church here, may our worship be holy. May our life together be an expression of the holiness of our worship through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen**

**If the gift is of a practical nature, the following phrase may be used instead:*

For giving us the practical tools we require for life together, we thank you. For this gift of _____, which enhances our service of you, we thank you. We ask your blessing on our use of _____ as we dedicate it to your glory and for the good of your people in this place.

Prayers at the Time of Death and Dying

Below is a collection of prayers that may be used on their own or in conjunction with each other or with other scripture verses and prayers at the time of dying and death. For more prayers go to “Occasional Prayers” at <http://presbyterian.ca/worship>.

Caring, gentle and loving God,
our home is with you and our rest is in your everlasting arms.
From you all life comes and to you we return.
We pray for (*name*) whom you created in your image and who you love and care for in all times as your precious daughter/son.
Be present with her/him with your kindness and give her/him
comfort in body
peace of mind,
stillness of spirit,
freedom from all anxiety and concern
and deep confidence in your love for her/him..
These things we pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

God of endless loving-kindness,
you invite us to find rest and peace in you when we are weary and burdened,
and to find strength in quietness and courage in faith.
Through your Holy Spirit give us a strong sense of your presence,
carry us when we feel weighed down,
and lift us to your heights.
Give us peace, let us hear your comforting voice,
and know that you are God and are always with us.
These things we pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

God of everlasting love,
God of eternal life,
God of light shining in darkness,
we turn over to you our lives and our cares,
we trust that you walk with us in all places,
and that you are always with us.
In this sacred time and moment

free us from anxiety and distress;
help us find comfort in your promises,
peace in your presence,
rest in your loving arms,
and welcome in your kingdom,
These things we pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

God of goodness and comfort,
of love and of peace;
you promise that you are always near to us,
help us draw near to you
and to know that nothing
can separate us from your love and compassion.
We thank you for all the blessings of life,
in good times, and in difficult times,
for walking with us in life, and in death,
and for all the ways in which we come to know your love and feel your presence.
Give (*name*) peace of mind, courage of spirit,
comfort of body, and assurance of our love
and your loving care.
We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In this sacred time of mystery,
keep watch, O God, over (*name*)
and over all who worry or weep,
comfort the sick,
give rest to the weary,
reassure the dying that they rest in the palm of your hand,
soothe the pain of the suffering ,
and give us peace in mind, spirit, and soul.
In the name of love and the strong and gentle name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

O LORD, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in thy mercy grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last. Amen.