

Parish Meeting Prayers

For use in November, 2023

Introduction

Leader Fear is not a Christian disposition. God expects us to trust and to use the gifts we have received.

Opening Prayer

All Loving God, you entrust us with gifts and talents. Help us to respond with confidence as we use these gifts in joyful service. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Word of God Matthew 25:14-15, 19-21

Reader A reading from the Gospel of Matthew (Pause for silent reflection)

Optional Discuss these questions in two's or three's. *The reading is on the reverse side.*

1. How have you claimed and used your gifts?
2. How could fear keep us from using our gifts?

Response (from Matthew 25:14-15, 19-21)

Side 1 "To one he gave five talents, to another two; to a third, one—to each according to his ability."

Side 2 No matter the amount or circumstances of the gifts we have received, God expects us to use them faithfully.

Side 1 "Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities."

Side 2 Help us to claim and use our gifts and responsibilities with trust and confidence.

Side 1 "Come, share your master's joy."

Side 2 Taking responsibility for our gifts, may we share our Master's joy both now and in eternity.

Petitions Individuals add intentions to remember here.

Closing Prayer

Generous God, we trust in your goodness to us. Help us use the gifts and responsibilities we have received, confident that you will support us in trying times. Thank you for your faithful love. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Gospel of Matthew (25:14-15, 19-21)

Jesus told his disciples this parable:

“A man going on a journey called in his servants
and entrusted his possessions to them:

To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one –to each
according to his ability. Then he went away.

After a long time the master of those servants came back
And settled accounts with them.

The one who had received five talents came forward
bringing the additional five.

He said, ‘Master, you give me five talents.

See, I have made five more.’

His master said to him, ‘Well done, my good and
faithful servant.

Since you were faithful in small matters,
I will give you great responsibilities.

Come share your master’s joy.’”